Blair hardens stance on Europe

TONY BLAIR widened the divide BY ANDREW GRICE between Labour and the Tories on Europe yesterday, when he vowed that he would not be deflected from pursuing a pos-

itive, pro-EU policy. By nailing his colours firmly to the Europhile mast, Mr Blair also launched a fightback aimed at winning over readers ion. The Prime Minister told the Commons that Britain would get a better deal by being "positive and constructive" in

AND JOHN LICHFIELD

the EU. But William Hague warned that Mr Blair's decision to "go with the flow" would suck Britain into an "United States of Europe."

The hardening of the Government's pro-EU stance came of Britain's Eurosceptic news- as an opinion poll suggested to the domestic audience. papers to what he sees as the benefits of closer EU integra-UK approve of the single currency than disapprove.

A pan-European survey, conducted for the French news agency, Agence France-Presse,

which questioned just under resort, not first resort," one 1,000 people in Briton, found that 48 per cent of them had a positive view of the euro and 43 per cent a negative one.

The finding will encourage Mr Blair, who has concluded that repeated threats to veto EU proposals weaken Britain's influence - even if they play well

He thinks Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, should have shown more restraint recently when other EU countries called for a common tax policy. "The veto should be a weapon of last

minister said last night.

Mr Blair decided to appeal over the heads of sceptical newspapers to their readers, after private Labour polls suggested people thought much of the recent coverage of tax harmonisation was based on 'dogma" rather than facts.

His decision to counter attack from a pro-EU platform widens the gap between Labour and the Tories and means that Europe is certain to be a key battleground at the

lots of clear blue water between us and the Tories on this issue." said one Downing Street source vesterday.

Mr Blair and Mr Hague clashed angrily in the Commons when the Prime Minister reported back on last weekend's summit of EU leaders in Austria. "The Government will not be swayed from its positive and constructive European policy." Mr Blair said. "I have no doubt that it is the right course for Britain's future.

Saying the Opposition's pol-Britain had helped to shape the

"We are very happy to have icy was driven by "headbangers in the Shadow Cabinet", he told Mr Hague: "Under your leadership the lunatics have taken over the asylum."

The Tory leader accused Mr Blair of saying one thing to the British people and another to the country's EU partners. He said the Prime Minister was more concerned with attacking the British media than preventing the development of a European superstate, which was now "in prospect".

Mr Blair claimed that

debate at the Vienna summit on economic, employment and Britain to surrender part of its other issues in a way which was fully consistent with national interests. The Tories warned that the meeting had moved towards a common tax policy by approving a study of company taxation and said Mr Blair had

ing to job creation targets. Mr Blair told MPs the ≌bna-year rebate on Britain's EU contributions was "fully justified

performed a U-turn by agree-

refund, by warning that the

plan to allow Eastern European

countries to join the EU could

be "stopped in its tracks" if

member states failed to reach

an agreement on EU funding by

In a tough message outlining

Germany's priorities for its

spell in the EU's rotating pres-

idency, which starts next

next March.

Clinton's visit seals destiny of Palestine

BY PATRICK COCKBURN

PRESIDENT BILL Clinton yesterda: gave the Palestinian Seople the gift they had been saiting for when he effectively recognised their claim to independence by addressing their parliament in Gaza.

In a day filled with emotion and a sense of history, the Palestinians in return voted to revoke the controversial era of confrontation between clauses in the Palestinian char- the United States and the ter that call for the destruction Palestinians. He said: "I reafof Israel.

Mr Clinton said the Palestinian people were free to "deine their own destiny on their own land".

Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader and head of state designate, called on the meeting of Palestinian officials and members of the Palestinian parliament to nullify the offending clauses. Israel has demanded they be revoked before proceeding with its limited withdrawal from the West Bank.

The vote may prove decisive in restarting the Wye peace agreement. David Bar-Illan, a senior adviser to Benjamin Ne-Anyahu, the Israeli Prime Minter, said: "The issue, as far as we are concerned, is now off the table." Israel is due to withdraw from another 5 per cent of the West Bank at the end

President Clinton's visit to as marking an end to the long NSIDE

■ 'Gaza is still one big prison' - the view on the street

■ Leading article Review, page 3

firm to you what I told you in the White House, that I will continue the peace process away from violence and confrontation '

American president to the combined Palestinian leadership, and the first visit to the Occupied Territories, Mr Clinton praised the Palestinians for voting to revoke the anti-Israel clauses. "You did a good thing today by raising your hands," he said. "You know why? It has nothing to do with the government of Israel. You touched the

sis on the need to conciliate the Israeli public stems from his doubts about the willingness of the Israeli Prime Minister to carry out the letter of the Wye Agreement on withdrawal from the Occupied Territories. To stay in office, Mr Netanyahu Gaza is also seen by Mr Arafat needs the support of the far right which does not want a pull-back.

page 10

In the first speech by an Yasser Arafat holding Bill Clinton's hand against his heart during the American President's visit to Gaza vesterday Mr Clinton's arrival by helicopter in Gaza took place under tight security with checkpoints every few hundred yards on all

people of Israel." President Clinton's empha-

in Gaza - 60 per cent of them a glimpse of the US President. The city was draped in American Stars and Stripes, which for the last 30 years have only been displayed in Gaza to be burnt in protest at US support for Israel. Hillary Clinton, who, unlike her husband has declared her support for a Pales-

Mr Arafat for not walking away from the negotiations with Israel when he had many reathe city's roads. Patrol boats sons to do so. He said he guarded the foreshore and few understood Palestinian grievof the one million Palestinians ances over Jewish settlements. land confiscations and house refugees - caught so much as demolitions. And in a marked change of tone from that used by previous US presidents, be referred to the Palestinian

"history of dispossession and dispersal". During the presidential visit, a halt has been put to the recent wave of demonstrations and riots over the continued tinian state, was mobbed by imprisonment of Palestinians by Israel. Four Palestinians and insisted on yesterday's children when she visited Shati have been killed in violence on show of hands. refugee camp in central Gaza.

President Clinton praised the West Bank as Mr Arafat comes under pressure from his own people not to let his pursuit of an understanding with the US lead to Palestinians remaining in jail for carrying out his orders.

> The Palestinian charter, written in 1964, has been a matter of dispute between Israel and the Palestinians since peace talks started. Mr Arafat insists the disputed clauses were revoked by the Palestine National Council two years ago with the agreement of the US and the previous Israeli government. Mr Netanyahu said it had not been properly nullified

Yesterday's vote should open the way for a three-way meeting between President Clinton, Mr Arafat and Mr Netanyahu to discuss differences over the implementation of the Wye Agreement, which has been frozen by Israel. Nathan Sharansky, a member Mr Netanvahu's inner cabinet, said

last night that he expected the meeting to take place. Mr Netanyahu welcomed the revocation of the charter, but claimed it was the result of his pressure. He added that there were other conditions which the Palestinians would have to meet but did not say if this week's Israeli withdrawal would take place.

tim

I'M ON A HEALTH KICK

BETWEEN FAGS!

I'M CUTTING OUT MEALS



HAMPSTEAD THEATRE SELL-OUT SEASON TRANSFERS TO THE COMEDY THEATRE FOR 8 WEEKS ONLY FROM 20 JANUARY 'EWAN McGREGOR RETURNS

IN TRIUMPH TO THE STAGE 'HE IS FIERCE, GRACEFUL AND FUNN

BY DAVID HALLIWELL

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Young are lazy, fat and drink too much

QRITAIN'S YOUTH is lazy, By JEREMY LAURANCE uttonous and addicted to booze and fags, according to the newest and most comprehenhealth, published by the Government yesterday.

The rot sets in from the age of five as children of both sexes spend increasing amounts of time in front of the television, eating the wrong foods and getting fat. By their early teens they are experimenting with cigarettes and alcohol, spending more hours slouched in darkened rooms and storing up

Health Editor

future health problems. By their

than 20 per cent are overweight. people aged from two to 24 is the most extensive undertaken

It shows that the "health gap" between rich and poor begins in infancy and widens through childhood and adolescence into early adulthood.

sive survey of young people's early twenties, over 40 per cent are regular smokers and more

The survey of almost 20,000 of the age group.

Professor Liam Donaldson, grammes but of the need to re- rather than changing the

laid," he said.

that the survey demonstrated the failure of government the need to act early to prevent efforts over the past decade to persuade young people to eat instead of going by car and de-

bells among the young. "That not abolish all the behaviour, people falling in, than going is the stage at which the foun- even should we want to. The important thing is to ensure dations for a healthy life are that it is not carried through Professor Donaldson denied into adult life." The findings demonstrated

young people developing the bad habits that could turn them their greens, walk to school into chronic invalids later in life. in the earliest years. The new cline drink and drugs. "I many resources were expendwouldn't see it as evidence of a ed on treating the conse-

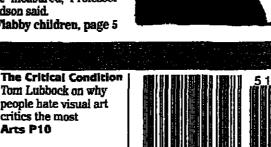
the Chief Medical Officer, said focus them," he said. "It is a lifestyles themselves. "We need the findings should ring alarm risk-taking age group. We can- to be upstream preventing downstream and pulling them out," Professor Donaldson said. A White Paper expected early in the new year will set out

the Government's plans for promoting public health and will suggest ways of reducing health inequalities which begin Too much effort and too survey provides a benchmark against which future progress will be measured, Professor Donaldson said. failure of public health pro- quences of unhealthy lifestyles

Flabby children, page 5

Tom Lubbock on why

people hate visual art



INSIDE THE REVIEW INSIDE THIS SECTION

New Pinochet appeal The former dictator's extradition fight goes to the House of Lords Home P2

Crers' pension boost Four million may get £50 a week extra Home P6

Foreign P11 China's next leader Heir-apparent makes first diplomatic visit

Foreign P12

Man who tunnelled out

of East Germany in 1962

accused of killing guard

Cold War murder trial | Shell promises cuts Shell pledged to cut costs by £2.5bn and shed at least 4,000 more jobs Business, P13

Arsenal star fined Patrick Vieira is fined £20,000 for V-sign to fans Sport, P24

about asylum-seekers? Absolutely nothing Comment P3 ference Blacker Meditations on the

Comment P4

David Aaronovitch

What should be done

funeral of an old hippy

Hamish McRae How PCs are replacing TV and making us think for our leisure Comment P5

This Student Life Facing the nemesis

Features P8

Arts P10 of the telephone bill

Human recycling Re-using your own blood during surgery Health P12

critics the most

LETTERS 2, LEADERS 3, COMMENT 4-5, OBITUARIES 6-7, FEATURES 8, ARTS 9-10, HEALTH 11-12, MEDIA 13-14, LISTINGS 15-16

TODAY'S TELEVISION



IN THE INDEPENDENT TOMORROW

'Where do you think the Queen went wrong in raising her family?

PENELOPE LEACH, CHILDCARE GURU, ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS

EFASHION: **CHRISTMAS PARTY** FROCKS FOR HIRE **EPLUS PAUL TAYLOR** ON WHY WE ALL NEED THEATRE CRITICS

THE BEST WRITING, WEEK IN, WEEK OUT: DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAE, MARK STEEL, ROBERT FISK, TERENCE BLACKER JOPIN WALSPI, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, ANNE MCEINOV, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH



A scene from The English National Ballet's 'The Nutcracker', which opens at the

Pinochet lawyers knew of lord's Amnesty link

General Pinochet received naterial 10 months ago that one of the law lords who ruled against the former dictator was linked to Amnesty International, it was claimed last night.

Today General Pinochet's counsel, instructed by the firm of solicitors Kingsley Napley, starts his appeal to the House of Lords to overturn the law lords' decision on the grounds of Lord Hoffmann's links to the human rights group. They are expected to say that if they had known of these links they would have asked Lord Hoffmann to stand down from the panel of five law lords considering their client's case for immunity from prosecution.

Amnesty International was represented in the Lords hearing as interveners, and argued against the general benefiting from immunity. Last night the organisation was given permission by the House of Lords to make representations at today's hearing.

The Independent has learnt that General Pinochet's petition is expected to say that he and his legal team were only informed that Lord Hoffmann

is the chairman and director of Amnesty International Charity Limited on 8 December.

It can be revealed, however that a letter openly stating Lord Hoffmann's role as chairman of Amnesty International Charity was sent to law firms, including Kingsley Napley, in an appeal for a building for Amnesty International in February this year.

In a prompt response Kings ley Napley pledged a donation of £1,000 to the building fund later the same month after a discussion among partners.

The letter appealing for funds stated: "... Lord Hoffmann is chairman of Amnesty's International Charity and of this appeal. At his suggestion, we give it our warm endorsement". It was signed by, among others, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg: the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham of Cornhill; and Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls. Lord Bingham had ruled in favour of General a former head of state in the High Court before the case



The letter showing Lord Hoffmann's charity links and the Law Lord (right)

As well as Lord Hoffmann's role with the Amnesty charity his wife, Gillian, is employed as an administrative assistant with Amnesty International.

The human rights group maintains that the charity is purely a fund-raising body, and played no part in Amnesty's intervention in the Pinochet case. It also denied that Lord Hoffmann's wife was in any way involved in decisions on the

General Pinochet's lawyers are expected to say today that Lord Hoffmann should have declared his connections with Amnesty and should not have sat on the case.

They are not accusing him of conscious bias against their client. But they are expected to refer to leading legal authorities who take into account "the insidious nature" of bias and how, in such circumwas acting in good faith while being unconsciously affected

One of the authorities they call on is Lord Goff of Chieveley, who is sitting at today's hearing with Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Hutton, Lord Hope of Criaghead and Lord

Kingsley Napley has acknowledged that it has made a donation to Amnesty Inter-

Noon today

FORECAST

General situation Northern and western Scotland will be windy with a mix of sunshine and showers. Eastern Scotland will be breezy but with decent sunny spells. Northern Ireland will see the odd shower and occasional sunny breaks. South-east England will remain cloudy all day with outbreaks of rain and coastal mist and fog. It will be very mild for the time of year Rain elsewhere in England and Wales this morning will tend to clear to leave a brighter but fresher after-

Cent 9 & SE England, London, E Anglia, E England, Channel Is: And very mild but rather cloudy day with spells of rain, some of them heavy erate south-east wind. Max temp 12-150 (54-59F). SW England, Wales, Midlands: A wet morning, but it will become brighter the afternoon. A moderate south-westerly wind. Max temp 12-15C (54-59F).

NW & Cent N England, Lake Dist, Isle of Man: One or two showers will break out, but there will be some surshine in between the showers. A moderate south-westerly wind. Min-temp 10-12C (30-54F). NE England: Sunny spells and only the odd isolated shower, chiefly over higher ground. A moderate south-westerly wind. Max temp 8-10C (46-50F)

N Ireland: Sunny spells and passing showers. A tresh south-westerly wind. Mantemp 8-110 (46-52F). Republic of Ireland: A few coaseal showers, but mainly dry with some sum-shine. A moderate south-westerly wind. May temp 8-110 (46-52F) SIN, NIN & NE Scotland, Glasgow, W & N Isles: Sunny spells and showers: some heavy. A Fresh to strong south-westerly wind. Max temp 6-90 (43-48F).

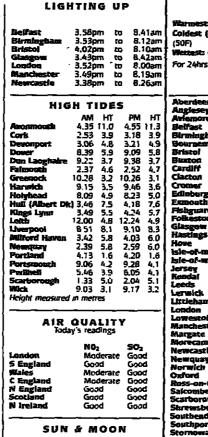
SE Scotland, Edinburgh, Aberdeen: One or two showers are possible but it

Most of England and Wales will be the comparison with some good spells of sun-shine. However, Northern Ireland and Scotland will be very windy and mostly cloudy with heavy rain. This rain will move south-eastwards on Thursday leaving the north and west with a rain of sunshine and showers.

Landon: A41 Pirichlov Rd. From Swiss Collage to Fortune Green, Major works at Finchiey Rd Gyratory, Urtal 31st Decembox. Cambridgeshire A1 between Alconbury and Haddon, Constructor: tare closures and contration Until 21st Docember. Bucklinghamshire: MAP Documen junctions 1a (M25) & 3 (Wycombc East). Three narrow lanes both ways and a 50 mph speed implicit in the contration of t

V E L.

Sümph speed limit either side of Chameek, Richard Services, Until 19th February 1999. West Yorkshire: MT Between J42 Lotfouse interchange (M62) and J43 Stourton, Roadworks and a 50mph speed writ. Until 31st December 1999. Cumbria: M6 J37 Kondal. Roadworks, cursaceway reduced to 2 lance both ways with a 50mph speed limit, 1 mile couth of the junction Until 18th January 1999. AA Roadwatch Coll 0356 401777 for the latest local and national traffic news, Source: The Automobile Association, Calls charged at 50p per min (Inc VAT).



WEATHERLINE For the latest forecasts diat **8891 5009** Tollowed by the two digits for your area. Source The Mer. Office Cass charged at SOp per min (and VAT)



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RAIN OR SHINE...

AN EARTHQUAKE hit eastern Taiwan yesterday, but the country escaped serious damage from the quake, which measured 5.2 on the Richter

The earthquake, whose epicentre was 59km (37 miles) north-east of the eastern county of Hualien, occurred under the sea bed and was felt in most parts of east and northeastern Taiwan, but not in the capital city, Taipei, officials



Low I will move north with low K de slow moving

THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Job-seekers to be vetted for crime

UP TO 12 million people seek- By JASON BENNETTO ing a job or a voluntary post are Crime Correspondent to be vetted each year to check if they have a criminal record be made under the new announced yesterday.

charity workers, will have to pay up to £10 for their certificates, which will be presented to their future employers. Penal reform groups yesterday said the system could make former criminals unemployable, while charities are worried the costs

will discourage volunteering. The vetting system was originally designed as a method of preventing undesirable people, such as sex offenders, from working with children and the vulnerable but the scope of the scheme has ballooned.

An estimated five million adults in the UK have some sort of criminal record and the number of annual checks that will

scheme is estimated to be between nine and 12 million. Every applicant, including bringing in an income of more than £70m a year.

Home Office minister Paul Boateng said yesterday that checking criminal records would be part of the process following up references.

But Helen Edwards, chief executive of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders. said: "There is a real risk that employers will refuse to employ anyone with a criminal record. This will increase the likelihood of reoffending."

A new Criminal Records Bureau, employing 1,200 people. is to be set up on Merseyside in the next two years to run the vetting procedure.

£75,000 awarded to 'traumatised' officer

fered psychiatric illness after witnessing the crash of a force that the parties had "reached minibus in which his fiancee was a passenger, was yesterday awarded £75,000 agreed damages in settlement of his claim. Graeme Tyson, 30. of Badby, Northamptonshire, launched a legal action against the Metropolitan Police following the accident in central London in March 1994. At a brief hearing, before Mr

A POLICE sergeant who suf- High Court in London, his counsel, John Reddihough, said a compromise" in the case.

Sgt Tyson was on duty in Whitehall when he saw a police minibus overturn after it was involved in a collision with a double-decker bus. His fiancée, now his wife, was one of two officers thrown out of the rear doors of the vehicle.

As well as the damages sum, he also receives his legal costs Justice Ian Kennedy at the as part of the settlement.

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Brian Harris was highly commended in the Georges Bendrihem Prize for his picture (left) of Martin McGuinness embracing Cyril Ramaphosa, as was John Voos for his of Emma Nicholson (right) at a Lib Dem conference

Winning images put frame on history

A STUDY of Gerry Adams, the BY DAVID LISTER Sinn Fein president, framed in Art News Editor a doorway at his Belfast office. has won an international prize for David Rose, a photogra-

RITICS"

pher on The Independent. The Georges Bendrihem Prize, dedicated to the memory of a French photographer who died covering President Jacques Chirac's visit to Tunisia in 1995, is presented for the year's best picture depicting a European political figure. Rose was presented with the award and a cheque for 25.000 francs (£2,700) yesterday by the President at the Elysee

Two other Independent photographers. John Voos and Brian Harris, were highly

Presenting the award, President Chirac said that in Rose's black-and-white picture one could feel pressing on the shoulders of the leader of Sinn Fein "all the crushing weight of a future difficult to construct". Rose is the first photographer from outside France to win the prize since it was set up in 1996.

Andy Blackmore, picture editor of The Independent, Paid: "David Rose's portrait shows some of the timeless qualities seen in all classic photojournalism: the instant bite of its geometric composition with the lingering aftertaste of its depth. David has employed what can be a clichéd tool of composition to outstanding effect by framing Press Awards and UK Guild of Gerry Adams in the door Picture Editors Awards.

"He goes on to notice the behind the subject, which gives the image an ethereal

feeling. The highlight on the door handle to the left, and the shape of the light switch to the right add an extra dynamic to the image, to produce a photograph that is both graphic and subtle at the same time."

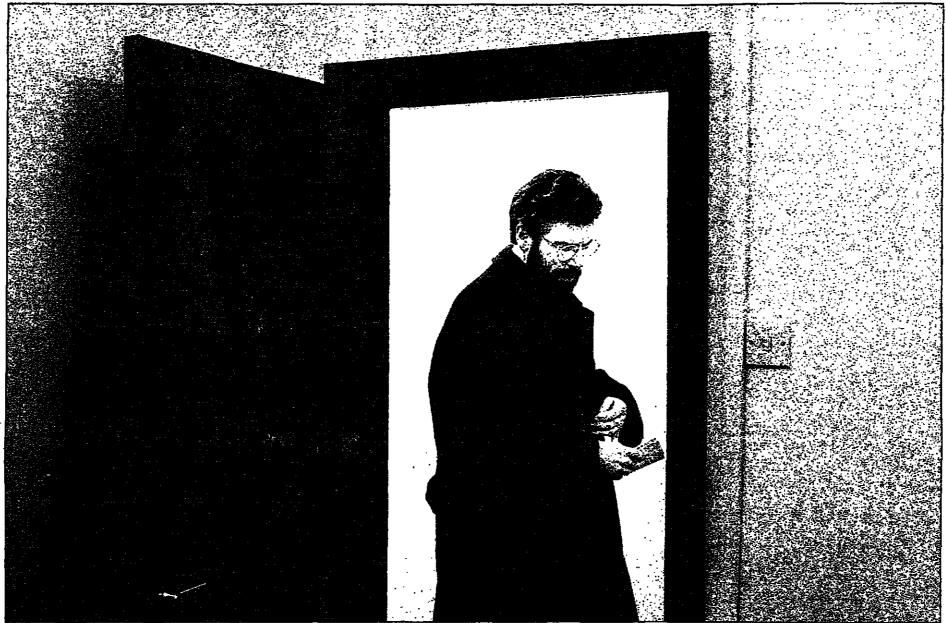
Voos's entry was a picture of Emma Nicholson having her eyes tested in Brighton on the second day of the Liberal Democrat conference in Sep-

Harris snapped a comradely embrace between Martin McGuinness of Sinn Fein and Cyril Ramaphosa, former secretary-general of the African National Congress. during a Sinn Fein rally in

Congratulating Rose on becoming "laureat du premier prix Georges Bendrihem 1998" President Chirac presented him with the trophy, a silver plate marked in the centre by a medal symbolising photography. The prize was decided by a jury made up of international photo-journalists.

Independent photographers have consistently won awards since the paper's launch in 1986 and The Inde*pendent* is Newspaper of the Year for Photography. The award continues The Independent's tradition of promoting striking photography. which has been recognised in awards including the Nikon

The Georges Bendrihem Prize was created by friends and colleagues of the photog-



Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president, in his office in Belfast, the image which won David Rose of "The Independent" first place in the Georges Bendrihem prize

The trouble with 'overbearing' Sir Bernard, by his neighbours

DF_TAILS EMERGED last night a way that blocked his drive oka extraordinary feud beween Baroness Thatcher's former press secretary, Sir Bernard Ingham, and his neighbours. Angry words have escalated to the point where the police were brought in and Sir Bernard now faces possible criminal damage charges.

A sauna, two wooden garages and a brightly coloured children's playhouse belonging to Barry Cripps, a builder, have fuelled Sir Bernard's growing discontent with his and dented the door of his Merneighbours at "Nutcracker Gables" in Purley, Surrey.

The feud, over parking rights it grew more heated when Sir Bernard allegedly kicked - and cedes because it was parked in vears and do not wish to engage

Yesterday, the Crippses told how they - instead of the Fleet Street editors of the Thatcher years - were the victims of Sir Bernard's allegedly "over-

bearing attitude". The row is believed to have started when Sir Bernard, 66, saw a car belonging to Mr and Mrs Cripps parked near the garage at the back of his detached bungalow. Yesterday Mr Cripps released a statement claiming Sir Bernard kicked cedes during the confronta-

tion. Sir Bernard denies this. Mervyn Toogood, a neighproperty boundaries, has some bour who read out a statement on behalf of Mr and Mrs Cripps, said: "They have already had to endure Sir Bernard's overdented - Mr Cripps' shiny Mer- bearing attitude for several



Ingham: Facing possible criminal damage charges

a public dispute with him. "His behaviour over this period has now culminated in the incident occurring on Sunday December 13 in which he kicked and dented the dri-

right of way over the vehicular access behind Sir Bernard's property which enables them to drive to their rear garage. It was whilst attempting to drive up this shared access way that Sir Bernard kicked the car." Sir Bernard was keeping

Mr Toogood, a marketing consultant who lives opposite Sir Bernard, said there had been a history of disputes between the two neighbours and that yesterday's incident was

told reporters he was away.

camel's back". The incident is thought to be the culmination of disagreements between the neighbours including a boundary dispute. Sir Bernard, who has been

ver's door of their Mercedes. bailed to return to Croydon po-"They have an undisputed lice station at a future date, is also reported to have disliked two garages built by Mr Cripps. a wooden sauna in his garden

> and a playhouse for his son. Mr and Mrs Cripps, who have lived in their detached home for about 10 years, are said to have very little contact

tight-lipped today and his wife with Sir Bernard. Sir Bernard said after the incident: "All that happened was that I have an extremely troublesome neighbour. He drove over my land to try to get his car into a rear garage.

"He knows he shouldn't do the straw that broke the so. When I remonstrated with him, he blocked my way into my garage and then alleged that I damaged his door - although I

> Leading article, Review, page 3



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Boat tragedy 'ripped heart from Iona'

THE SEARCH for three young BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE missing, presumed Scotland resumes today after emergency rescue workers

failed to find any trace of them. Last night, as one or two loals spoke of how the heart had been "ripped out" of the island, most accepted there is no ch: e of the men having survived. The talk turned to when

the bodies might wash up.

drowned, off the isle of Iona in Oban, Argyll, said that Gordon Grant, 33, who swam to safety more than 100 volunteers and only to discover the body of one of his friends, had survived because of his high level of fitness.

His mother, Helen Grant, said: "We are a famous island friends and good people and but not a famous people and we this has ripped the heart out of would give anything not to have

this attention. "i am the lucky one - my son is the one who survived - but A hospital consultant in you have to understand I felt Kirkpatrick, 23, was assisted by

like a mother to these other two helicopters, fishing boats. ly winds. As he and his friends boys, as well. It is a great pain rescue vessels and dozens of iswe all feel. These boys were the future for this island and we have lost that."

Mrs Grant said the young men had run about together as children. "They were great our already fragile community."

the situation." Yesterday's search for the Mr Grant has told the coastthree men, Logie McFadyen, 24, guard that the 14ft dinghy cap-Alisdair Dougal, 19, and David sized after being hit by a large

fought to bail out their boat, one landers. Steve Monks, HM of the gunwales dipped under Coastguard sector manager. the water. None of the men - including Robert Hay, whose accepted there was little body was found on Monday chance of finding them alive: "It had been wearing life-jackets. would be wrong to give anyone "If they had been, we may well false hope by talking about have had them with us today," finding survivors. This is a fishing community. It understands said a coastguard spokesman.

The five men had been travelling back from a Christmas dance on Mull.

'Lost sons'.

Serial rapist is linked to ten attacks

A SERIAL sex attacker is be- By JASON BENNETTO lieved to have struck at least 10 Crime Correspondent times in the past 16 months, police said yesterday. The man, who is considered extremely dangerous, has raped several of his victims. The attacks were in

London, Essex and Brighton. Nearly 100 officers from three forces covering the areas are conducting a joint investigation, codenamed Operation

Commander Paddy Tomkins, of Scotland Yard, said the man could strike again. The attacks include the sexual assault of two girls of 14 and 15 in a wood and the rape of a 15-year-old.

The joint inquiry began in November in Essex after three attacks in Southend and Westcliff were linked. Subsequent investigations showed a rape in north-west London and an earlier attack in Brighton were by the same man.

Mr Tomkins said: "This man is a prolific attacker. We are obviously concerned that he may strike again. It also entirely possible that this man is responsible for other attacks that may not have been reported

Detective Chief Superintenlice, added: "Detailed analysis and investigation has revealed cliff, Essex, at about 11pm;

strong links between these 10 offences in terms of the suspect's speech, his behaviour patterns and the duration and method of attack."

He is a described as white. possibly tanned, aged 20 to 30, of medium build and 5ft 8in to 5ft 10in tall. He has short brown wavy on top and shorter at the sides. He speaks with a southern accent, and sometimes wears a cream or white knitted 5pm on 12 August 1997. shirt with black stripes, similar in style to a rugby shirt.

The attacks were: A serious sexual assault on home in north-west London on 29 October this year:

Sexual assault on a woman don at 10.40pm on 28 October; ■ Rape of a 26-year-old woman in north-west London at 4am on 13 September ; ■ An assault on a 16-year-old in

Southend, Essex, on 12 September at 9.45pm. The attack was interrupted by the victim's boyfriend: ■ A serious serious sexual as-

dent Lee Weavers, of Essex Po-sault on a 22-year-old woman, also on 12 September, in West-

■ The rape of a 15-year old girl in Eaton Road, Southend, at 3am on 31 August:

■ The rape of an 18-year-old in Brighton at about midnight on 29 August;

■ A serious sexual assault on a 17- year-old girl on waste ground in north-west London at about midnight on 23 May.

 Sexual assault on a woman in an empty garage in north hair, sometimes described as London at 10.15pm on 19 May; ■ A sexual assault on two schoolgirls, aged 14 and 15, in woodland at Rayleigh, Essex, at

Anyone with information should call 0800 389 2873.

In an unrelated development, police are to ask a court a 22-year-old at 3pm at her to impose a curfew on a freed rapist who returned to live near the scene of his crimes.

In what is believed to be the aged 21 in a street in east Lon- first case of its kind, police will seek an order under new laws against Michael Gordon, 35, from Manchester, dubbed the Bedsit Beast after being jailed for 12 years in 1990 for raping two students at knifepoint.

A stipendiary magistrate in Manchester will next week bear submissions by Greater Manchester Police that Gordon, freed under licence earlier this year, should be subjected to a



Diane Blood, with Rudolph a toy reindeer given to her by relatives, talking yesterday in Sheffield Doug Marke

Diane Blood tells of joy at birth

Social Affairs Correspondent

DIANE BLOOD, who became pregnant by her dead husband's sperm, spoke for the first time yesterday of the "wonderful feeling" of becoming a mother Mrs Blood, 32, gave birth to Liam by Caesarean section at a Sheffield hospital on Friday after a four-year fight to be artificially inseminated.

"It's a wonderful feeling to know that he's here," she said. "He's in a special care baby unit at the moment and I'm obviously still very concerned about him but it was lovely to hold him. in my arms." Liam weighed 5lb 13oz and arrived a month early. Stephen Blood, 30, who died of meningitis would have been "very proud to be a father".

His wife persuaded doctors. to remove sperm from his body while he was unconscious. Because it was taken without his written consent, the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority blocked Mrs Blood's use of it. The Court of Appeal decided that under European law she did have the right to use the sperm and a Belgian clinic certied out the insemination.

The law prevents Stephen being named on the birth certificate but Mrs Blood had no plans to challenge it. Asked if she was likely to have more children she said: "It's a theoreti-

Legal reform plan 'will add to acrimony of divorce' '

GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS to overhaul the legal system will make divorce more acrimonious and threaten the indelawyers' groups warned yesstyle "no-win, no fee" cases as . . rather than lawyers". it received its second reading

Political Correspondent

The Lord Chancellor, Lord pendence of the judiciary, Irvine of Lairg, outlined the details of the Bill yesterday with terday. The Access to Justice a pledge to bear down on the Bill was attacked by the Law _ £700m-a-year legal aid bill "in Society for its emphasis on US- the interests of the public

the biggest changes to the legal

aid system for more than 50 years by contracting out work to a small number of specialist firms. It will also allow solicitors to represent clients in the higher courts and replace criminal legal aid with a Criminal Defence Service comprising qual-

ity-approved lawyers. But in an attempt to cut legal aid costs, the Bill will in-

fees" to cover property dis- improve mediation on divorce putes that arise from a matrimonial break-up.

The president of the Law Society, Michael Matthews, said ments need a clear winner and the "US-style approach" would make divorce much more confrontational by creating a "winner takes all outcome". Mr Matthews said the "bizarre" proposal flew in the face of other government policies to

and persuade the parties to negotiate differences amicably. "Conditional-fee agreea clear loser and that's not something you want when a couple are going through di-

vorce," he said. Lord Irvine said conditional fees would open up the courts to those who could not afford to

contemplate the cost of losing a case. He said the Bill would introduce "quicker, simpler and cheaper" court procedures while sweeping away restrictive practices in the legal profes-

The Lord Chancellor told the House of Lords that the Bill was a "realistic and fair," way of ensuring that the public got

time as increased access to the controversial proposal to end

The Bill will end the current system whereby any lawyer can take a legal aid case. The number of firms offering a legal aid service will be cut from 11,000 to about 3,000 nationwide. a move critics have claimed will create "legal-aid deserts".

The Bill also came under at-

the powers of the four senior "designated" judges to veto any rule change affecting the profession or advocacy rights.

Sir Nicholas Lyell, the shadow Attorney General, said that moves to give the Lord Chancellor the right of veto would give him unprecedented power that would threaten the inde value for money at the same tack from the Tories for its pendence of the judiciary.

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European ministers ban four antibiotics from animal feed

EUROPEAN AGRICULTURE BY KATHERINE BUTLER ministers have banned four antibiotic drugs from animal feed after warnings that overuse by farmers is causing resistance to antibiotics in humans who eat pork and chicken.

Bowing to Swedish and Danish research indicating that the routine use of these drugs poses long-term health concerns, a majority of governments, including Britain, brushed aside lobbying by the pharmaceutical industry to back the ban.

Nick Brown, the Minister for Agriculture, said his support was based on concern for public safety. "The new Labour Government is determined to put the protection of the con-

sumer at the forefront of decision making in this area. That means that on the basis of scientific evidence and the precautionary principle, the British Government supports the ban," Mr Brown said.

Other ministers said they had learned the lessons of BSE, E. coli and other serious food scares. "This is a triumph for the consumer," said Ireland's Minister for Agriculture and Food, Joe Walsh.

used not simply to treat illness

Because antibiotics are routinely incorporated into feedstuffs, there are widespread indications that they are being

The drugs enhance digestion and prevent weight loss, thus saving farmers money Yesterday's decision applies

to four drugs - Spiramycin, Tysolin phosphate. Virginiamycin and Zinebaeitracin - although farmers will still be allowed to purchase them from pharmacies to treat illness on a restricted basis. Controls will be introduced at feed mills to ensure the ban on mixing them with feed is observed.

Pharmaceutical producers reacted angrily to the ban. Alpharma, a US-Norwegian company which manufactures Zinc bacitracin, said there was no scientific evidence of even a remote risk of resistance build-up

but to fatten pigs and poultry. in humans. The drug was not used by humans so the question of build-up was irrelevant, a spokesman said.

Zincbacitracin helped farmers to reduce costs because treated animals could eat less for the same results, he said. The ban will be reviewed in

two years to take account of any new scientific evidence. Four other animal feed drugs will remain on the market but EU scientists are considering whether to extend the

the ban to them. Spain, Portugal and Belgium abstained in yesterday's vote. arguing that the evidence of a link between farm use of antibiotics and human resistance was not convincing.

IN BRIEF

BBC reporter cleared of assault

A BBC journalist was yesterday cleared of assaulting a former girlfriend. Philip Mercer, 31, a reporter on Radio 1's Newsbeat, had denied assaulting freelance sports iournalist Louise Port, 22, during their seven-month relationship. Magistrates at Ealing dismissed the charge.

Abandoned newborn 'near death' A NEWBORN boy found in a garden could have been as

little as two hours from death, doctors said. The baby was probably in the cold for up to six hours after he was abandoned on a lawn in the village of Sco Ruston, near North Walsham, Norfolk. He was found at 7am yesterday.

Damages over schoolboy arrest A BLACK man who claimed he was beaten and racially abused by police when he was 12 years old has won £1,000 in damages at the High Court. Jermaine Jauvel. 23, won

wrongful arrest following a 1987 incident in south London. Ex-teacher loses basketball claim A FORMER teacher lost her High Court action for damages over a prank in which she was hit by a

basketball. Anne Etheridge suffered headaches after the 1994 incident at Robertsbridge College. East Sussex and retired early. But the court said no one was to blame.

Piped festive music 'a scourge' PIPED MUSIC played in shops and restaurants over the Christmas period is bad for business and a scourge of modern life. A study, commissioned by the Royal National Institute for Deaf People, has revealed that 61 per cent of people questioned found festive piped music annoying.

Ulster talks end in Unionist rift

A DAY of political activity in Belfast yesterday brought not a breakthrough in the stalled peace process but the unexpected splintering of a minor Unionist party opposed to the Good Friday Agreement. The Ulster Unionist Party's

deputy leader. John Taylor. said after a meeting with the nationalist SDLP that the chances of making progress this week had risen from 50 to 60 per cent, raising cautious hopes that agreement might be found on the shape of the new Northern Ireland government.

Further talks will be held today in the hope of clinching agreement before the Christ-

But as the major parties bargained in private, attention was centred on the pyrotechnics within the UK Unionist narty, which holds five of the Northern Ireland Assembly's 108 seats. Four assembly members said they were withdraw

By DAVID MCKITTRICK Ireland Correspondent

ing their support from the party leader, Robert McCartney, after a row in which they alleged he "impugned their integrity." Mr McCartney responded that their conduct "indicates a lack of political judgement of quite alarming proportions".

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He was reportedly ready to withdraw from the assembly in the event of Sinn Fein being brought into government. His four colleagues wanted to fight their case within the assembly.

Although the dispute has no vital significance in terms of the assembly's arithmetic, it is seen as symptomatic of the divided and confused state of political Unionism. The Unionist cause in the assembly is now represented by members fractured into six difference

> David McKittrick. Review, Page 4

Blood tells of Flabby youngsters put health at risk

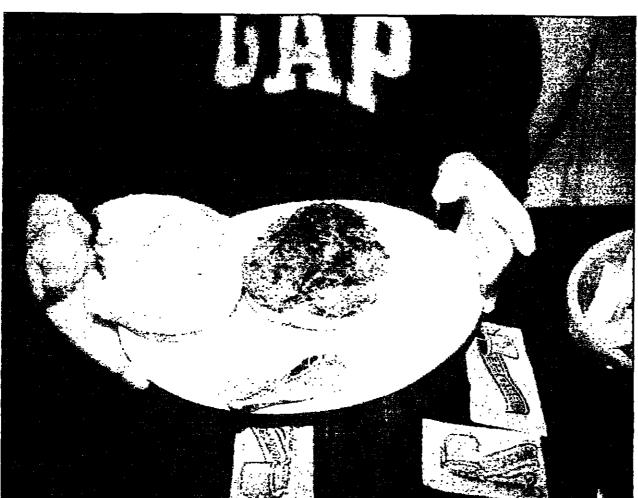
BY JEREMY LAURANCE lealth Editor

FLABBY YOUTHS who prefer to hide behind the bike sheds with a sticky bun and a cigarette rather than chase a football round the sports field present one of the greatest challenges to public health, the Government's chief medical officer said yesterday.

Professor Liam Donaldson said the problems suffered by young people over their weight was one of the most striking findings from a survey, "The Health of Young People 1995-97", released yesterday. The survey, the largest ever undertaken, shows that one-third of those aged 16-24 were overweight or obese.

Most of those carrying excess flab were aware of the problem and were trying to shed it. But. more worryingly, young women tended to perceive themselves as overweight, even when they were not. Almost half of those who were at their desirable weight, defined as a body mass index a measure that combines weight and height) of 21-25, aid they were trying to lose weight. Even among the underweight (body mass index of 20 or less) one in ten said they

were dieting. Professor Donaldson said too many young women had negative attitudes to their body image and the problem of eatand under-recognised. "It has



Junk food and lack of exercise contribute to the high proportion of young people with a weight problem Photofusion

that front by the health service,"

The levels of smoking found among young people are among the highest recorded. Inbut more needs to be done on are unreliable, the researchers

Health at University College, London, who conducted the survey, took samples of surva and measured the levels of cohad wide publicity in the media stead of questionnaires, which tinine, a metabolite of nicotine,

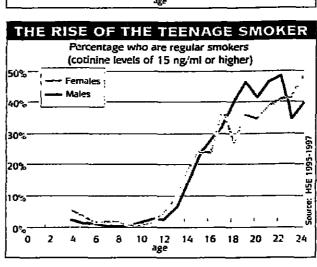
from a smoker.

The results showed smoking increased from 20 per cent of boys at age 16 to 40 per cent at

from the Department of Public of whether the sample comes their early twenties more than 40 per cent of both sexes were regular smokers.

The proportion of children with cotinine levels above 15 18 and from 25 per cent of girls nanograms per millilitre, indiwhich gives an accurate picture at 16 to 30 per cent at 18. By cating that they were regular

THE GROWTH OF THE COUCH POTATO Average number of hours children spent in the past week in physical activity or sitting 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15



smokers, rose steeply from the age of 12, diverging in the late teens as the pace of increase among women slowed. However, women smokers caught up and overtook the men by their early twenties.

Professor Donaldson said it was striking that although adult smoking was higher in lower social classes, among those aged under 15, experimentation with

cial classes IV and V smoking endures into adult life. People in upper social classes seem to drop it," he said.

The social class gradient was evident across almost every measure of ill health. The children of the poor eat less fruit and vegetables, smoke more, suffer more emotional problems and rate their own health as worse than the children of the rich.

Professor Donaldson said the Government's White Paper on public health, to be published in the new year, would address ways of preventing the health gap between the classes opening up in childhood.

"Health overall has improved a great deal in the second half of this century. Against that background of improvements in most of the causes of death we have seen these social class differences persisting. The White Paper will look at measures across government departments in environment. transport and housing, and public health programmes will strongly benefit from joining them together. It represents a fundamental change of emphasis with the past.

One message does appear to have got through: The need to use sun-cream to prevent sunburn. Over 90 per cent of 12-15 year olds rated this as "very important". Parents also rated it as the most important way of protecting the skin.

However, use of sun-cream declined with age, from 89 per cigarettes occurred equally cent at age three to 70 per cent across the social scale. "In so- at age 12 and 57 per cent at 15.

OUR STUDENT LIFE

Aged 20. 6ft 2in, about 13st 7lb. Diet: A lot of soup and toast. Pasta and tuna mayonnaise. Sometimes bolognese and

Drinking: Not a lot compared to other students. No bingeing but likes to get "merry". Smoking: No.

Exercise: Rows twice a week and goes to the gym three or four times a week.

"My diet's not too bad - I don't do kebabs much. I think my drinking is under control. I know a lot of people through the sports clubs, and most eople do sport for the social and enjoyment side of it.

Aged 19, 5ft 10in, about 9st. Diet: Tries to eat healthily and likes fruit and salads. Has "a Pringle addiction" and loves savoury foods and ice-cream. Usually has a sandwich for lunch and pasta and salad for dinner, Sometimes fast food. Rosie: Pringle addict not very often.

beer, but doesn't feel that she overdoes it very often. Smoking: No.

Exercise: Plans to take exercise, and goes swimming sometimes. She hopes to do aerobies with her mum when she goes home for Christmas.

"I do worry that I don't eat properly. When I go home I'm going to try and learn to cook.



Alistair: soup and toast



never starved and binged. If my friends have eating disorders, I try and bash some

As for drink, I'm never going part-time job in a bar).

Drinking: At least one or two pints every night at work. No getting drunk, just

Exercise: Too busy to fit it in.



Likes wine and to touch vodka again after last Friday night. I had a dreadful

"I like my food, and I've

Aged 19, 5ft 11in, 11st 71b. Diet: Usually McDonald's or Burger King or fried food (at

socialising. Smoking: Sometimes, but, again, just socially

"My diet is very, very bad mostly because I'm running around from place to place. I worry about my health and every week I decide to do something about it, but it never works out that way."

Aged 20, 5ft 5.5in, 8st 7lb. Diet: Eats whatever is to hand. More of a sandwich girl than a burger girl.

Drinking: Drinks a lot bu doesn't worry as she can always remember the night before. Recently drank half a bottle of Bucks Fizz, two glasses of wine and five gin and tonics and still wasn't drunk. "I can go without for

Smoking: She has cut down from 15 to about five a day, but will have about 20 in a night if she goes out. Exercise: Swims about once

a term. She used to do lots of sport at school but hasn't done anything at college. "People aren't very fit because we have transport everywhere now. You have so many choices so you go out with your friends rather than

go to the gym."

This Student Life, Review, page 8

ARLBORO/CLASSIC

Blood mix-up left boy brain-damaged

A BABY was left severely braindamaged after being given the wrong blood in a transfusion because of a mix-up over surnames, a court heard yesterday. James Green needed the

transfusion because he fell ill with jaundice when he was four days old but he was given blood intended for another newborn baby with the same name. Instead of O-positive, the commonest type, he received the rarer Anegative which triggered a reaction causing convulsions and heart failure.

The "mismatch" occurred at the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow, Essex in March 1992. James, now aged six. cannot walk, stand without support, talk or do anything

All hospitals were told to review their procedures for handling blood earlier this year after a study by the Serious Hazards of Transfusion (Shot) group revealed 169 cases in which errors had been made. rytting patients at risk.

🞾n 12 cases patients died and in a further 39 they suffered serious injury requiring treatment in intensive care or

By JEREMY LAURANCE Health Editor

dialysis for kidney failure. Blood for transfusions has to be carefully matched against the blood group and tissue type of the patient before being given to avoid triggering a serious reaction.

James's parents, Dudley and Patricia Green, are seeking substantial damages from North Essex Health Authority, on behalf of their son, at the High Court in London. The health authority has admitted liability and agreed many of the sums claimed, but there is still a dispute over the extent of

James's future care needs. The family's counsel, Robert Owen QC, told Mr Justice Thomas: "He requires care in every aspect of his life, but he is a very lively, intelligent, goodhumoured and happy child

against all adversities." Mr Green, a policeman, and his wife, of Stanbourne, Essex. also have a five-year-old daughter, Felicity, and an 18-month-

Mrs Green, 43, wept in the witness box as she described the family's "hand-to-mouth" to survive and have been for nearly seven years," she said.

She told the court that James was at boarding school during the week but looked forward to coming home at weekends. It was expected that he would live with his parents for the rest of his life.

She said the family wanted to care for him at home. "We want him safe and want to be with him. I particularly feel responsible for what happened in the first place, and feel I have to be protective," she said.

About 3 million blood transfusions are carried out each year, the vast majority without problems, but when problems do occur they tend to follow a pattern. The findings of the first annual report by Shot, published earlier this year, said the commonest error, accounting for almost half the cases, was a mix-up in which blood intended for one patient was

given to another. The group was set up independently of the National Blood Service to monitor the safety of blood transfusion.

The hearing, set to last three days, continues.

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Extra pension for stay-at-home mothers

MOTHERS WHO stay at home BY ANDREW GRICE will qualify for extra pensions of up to £50 a week under plans to be announced by the Gov-

People who look after sick or elderly relatives will also receive a second pension when they reach retirement age on top of the basic state pension, now £61.70 a week for a single

carers will benefit from the Government's decision to pay their contributions, under proposals in a Green Paper to be unveiled by Alistair Darling, the Secretary of State for Social Security.

"These carers are doing important and worthwhile work, but it has not been reflected in their pensions in the tem and give financial help to State will argue that those who past," a government source said last night. "There is a strong moral case for their efforts to be rewarded."

The decision to boost the pensions of women who give up work to bring up their children will be seen as a measure aimed at bolstering family life.

Church leaders have urged the Government to reward marriage through the tax sysstay-at-home mothers, while the Tories have accused Labour of undermining the family by bringing in generous help with child care costs.

Mr Darling's so-called "carers' pension" will form part of a wider package under which the Government will help people who seek to provide a decent income for their own retirement. The Secretary of

can afford to save for their old age have a responsibility to do so, so the state can concentrate its resources on the genuinely poor. The Green Paper will include a mixture of incentives and penalties aimed at persuading the eight million people not saving for their

retirement to take out new "stakeholder pensions".

lowed to pay lower national insurance contributions, while those who do nothing when they could make provision for themselves may face lower benefits in retirement.

But the Government will stop short of the compulsory scheme proposed by Frank Field, who resigned as the Welfare Reform minister in July.

The Tories will seize on the rejection of Mr Field's ideas as evidence that Tony Blair has backed away from radical changes to the social security system, despite his pledge to switch part of the £100bn-a-year budget to education.

Mr Darling said that forcing people on low incomes to save more was not feasible. "I part company with those who say 'compel everyone to save'. I say is necessary to ensure poor don't believe compulsion is the key issue. There are other ways

of achieving what I want," he said. People earning less than 19,000 a year would have their pension contributions subsidised by the state.

The Tories will accuse the Government of "tinkering" while the Liberal Democrats will criticise it for rejecting a compulsory system, which they

people receive an adequate in-

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come in retirement.

When the elderly need protecting from their 'carers'

By JACK O'SULLIVAN

THREE YEARS ago John Tiplady, owner of a private nursing home in Yorkshire, was spotted behaving strangely towards an elderly female resi-dent. Then Judith Jones, a staff member at the home, found what she thought was semen on the lady's cardigan and hair.

Having destroyed any evidence in cleaning up the elderly woman she felt unsure what to do. Her word would not count against Mr Tiplady, who had a respected career in the care sector and had won awards. The residents, some blind, some suffering from senile dementia, were unreliable

She phoned Action on Elder Abuse, who put her in touch with help. Eventually, she took a swab from another elderly patient's mouth. The specimen was found to contain semen. and sealed Tiplady's fate. Last year he was jailed for four ears for indecent assault. The judge condemned "the vilest abuse of trust imaginable".

No one likes to think of vulnerable to abuse as young children. And because of their disabilities, it can be just as hard for them to be taken problem is inadequote aware- again.



ness among professionals.

That is why we are asking readers to support Action on Elder Abuse as one of three charities benefiting from The Independent's Christmas Appeal. Since its foundation in 1993, the charity has emerged as a vital advocate protecting Stephanie Coningham was a

typical caring professional who thought her aged mother was safe. Ms Coningham, a social worker, thoroughly checked the local authority home into which she placed her mother, Mary Watts, who was 81, suffering from Parkinson's Disease and severe arthritis.

Then, one night, care staff found that a mentally ill old man incidents like these. But they do had climbed into Mrs Watts' bed happen. Elderly people are as and was sexually assaulting her. "All the staff did was to take him to his room and report what had happened," said Ms Coningham. "No one took any preseriously. Indeed the biggest cautions against it happening

other nightly check, the man ras again found in her bed. He had put three cardigans around my mother's face and wrapped one tightly around her neck. He was sexually assaulting her and she was very distressed."

Yet Mrs Watts received no counselling. The man was allowed to stay in the home. His victim had to share the same day room for meals. "My mother had Parkinson's and so had a very passive face," said her daughter. "So the staff seemed to think she was not upset. But she was terribly distressed about being near what she called 'that horrible man'. She was a church-goer, a member of a generation that was horrified by any sexual impropriety. I had to explain to them what she needed. I wanted her to have someone to talk to about it, because she was too embarrassed to speak to me, her daughter, about something like this. But nothing was done."

Ms Coningham contacted Action on Elder Abuse who helped her to complain effectively. "They were superb. They listened brilliantly and put me in touch with a good solicitor." Not wishing to put her mother through a court case, Ms Coningham won a £2,500 settlement, which was spent on extra

visits for her mother.



abuse. It is also for carers under strain. Like Jane, who, after her parents died, found herself in her mid-twenties solely responsible for the care of her fractious grandmother.

"We loved each other very much but she became very difficult," said Jane. "One day I got The helpline (0800 731 4141) so cross when I was driving that

is not simply for those who spot I slammed the brakes on and almost shot her through the windscreen. She was very shaken. I became like a horrible bully. I could see people staring at me, wondering why I was shouting at this frail old lady. She was very arthritic. But I would be too rough taking her out of the bath or dressing her. One day, I took her by the shoulders and shook her. I remember that look of

> bewilderment in her eyes." Ryan Sampson of Action on sider aduse savs one of the biggest problems is theft. Frequently it is relatives, granted power of attorney, enriching themselves at the elderly person's expense. In other cases it is plain deception.

"In care homes," said Mr Sampson, "they are supposed to receive about £13 a week personal allowance, but many either do not receive it or find there are charges for basics like siders who will listen to them 4.30pm.

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up to £13." Mr Sampson added: "Older

lots of ways. They need out-

soaps, which miraculously add and back them up. That's why we are here.'

The Action on Elder Abuse people are very vulnerable in helpline (0800 731 4141) is open on weekdays from 10am to

Advisers split on paying for aid

Social Affairs Correspondent

THE ROYAL Commission to advise how the increasing burden of care for the elderly should be financed is facing worrying divisions, according to sources.

Government officials think that there will be a "substantial minority report" or at least a "strong note of dissent" in the commission's report to the Government, which has already been postponed for publication by a month, to 27 January.

Most of the 12 commission members want to put forward the radical proposal that nursing and personal care costs for the old would be free, in the same way as hospital care. This means that when people enter care homes they would only have to pay for their accommodation, reducing the chances that they would be forced to sell the family home to finance their care.

But a minority on the commission believes that the cost would be far too high. They say those who would gain the most from the system would be the better off, because the poorest are already covered by the means-test system.

A spokesman for the commission said yesterday the differences of opinion were "not unworkable".

The commission, which me as recently as Friday, was set up in December last year by Frank Dobson, the Secretary of State for Health, to find a "fair and affordable" way of funding long-

term care. Under the current means tested system, which is highly unpopular, people with savings of less than £10,000 have their nursing-home fees paid by the state. Those with savings of up to £16,000 have to pay part of the fees while those with higher savings pay the full cost. This has led to many elderly people being forced to sell their homes

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Hunger striker's friends 'exaggerated' suffering

BY JOHN DAVISON

REPORTS by friends of the hunger striker Barry Horne about his condition were "flawed and inaccurate", a hospital spokesman said yesterday.

The comments came after speculation that Horne's fast had been a charade, with animal-rights activists seeking to apply extra pressure on the Government by exaggerating his suffering and predicting his imminent death. There were also rumours that Horne had been taking sustenance

during the 68-day protest. A spokesman for York dis-trict hospital confirmed that, in its view, Horne - serving an 18vear jail sentence for arson had not taken any food during the fast. But he added: "Information given to the press by his supporters has always been flawed and inaccurate.'

He also made clear that, on



admission to the hospital last month, Horne had chosen to rehydrate himself by taking sweetened tea for 36 hours. and then fruit juice for a further three-and-a-half days, before returning to taking only water. Horne was moved from the

'no irreversible damage'

prison last Thursday after refusing further treatment. He was re-admitted to the hospital after calling off the strike at 4.30pm on Sunday, and his condition was said to be improving yesterday. He is now taking sweetened tea, sova milk and vitamin supplements. At various times over the past 10 days his supporters

blind, had suffered liver damage and that his body was consuming his internal organs. The hospital spokesman said that when Horne left them last week he had suffered "no

claimed he had gone deaf.

irreversible damage". Sources at the prison said yesterday that they had been surprised at what a good condition he was in. A new power point had been installed in the medical wing so that he could watch television.

"You don't normally do that

hospital back to Full Sutton if you are blind," said the

Tony Humphries, a friend of Horne's and a campaigner with the Animals Betraved Coalition which supported him during the action, dismissed "ludicrous" suggestions that it had not been a proper hunger strike.

Horne launched his hunger strike to press for a Royal Commission on vivisection, but the Government consistently stressed that it would not give in to blackmail.

He finally abandoned the strike after seeing proposals for new co-operation between the Animal Procedures Committee, which oversees animal experiments, and the Associate Parliamentary Group for Animal Welfare, a cross-party group of

"This has got the potential to be a major step forward, as long as Labour don't try and con us again." said Mr Humphries.

England lays claim to 'Auld Lang Syne'

ROBERT BURNS wrote the words to the New Year anthem Auld Lang Syne, but the music was by the 18th century English composer William Shield, according to new evidence.

Shield who was born in 1748

in Swalwell, south of the Tyne.

wrote an operatic piece called

Rosina, the story of a country

By Stephen Meredith

girl. The original score turned up in Gateshead public library. and was passed to a local

musical director who found the Chris Stewart. of the BBC's Look North television programme, who made the discovery, said a letter that Burns wrote in 1788 revealed he had taken his lead for Auld Lang Syme from a "man's singing". Gateshead council now wants Auld Long Syne recognised as a local tune in time for the millennium celebrations.

said: "Come New Year's Eve 2000, millions of people across the globe will be singing along to the tune [Shield] wrote."

Mr Stewart said: "It's certainly controversial and could help put Gateshead on the mu-Sid Henderson, the council's claim to fame won't go down too sical map, even though the chairman of libraries and arts. well north of the border."

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Efficiency squad will monitor arts

A NEW efficiency squad to monitor the arts across the nation

 from museums and galleries to theatres and orchestras - is to be set up by Chris Smith, the Secretary of State for Culture. Media, and Sport.

Among areas it will examine are salary levels in the national companies. The Culture Department is concerned that far more staff at the Royal Opera House earn above £50,000 a year than at the National Theatre or the Royal Shakespeare Company. It will also look at potential ideas from the sports sector.

The squad will be established next week, made up inireporting to Mr Smith. He un- are achieved." veiled the new unit, called arts funding system and de-

BY DAVID LISTER Arts News Editor

tailed grants to the national museums. He also set out his shake-up of government-funded bodies in the arts, museums. film, tourism, architecture. sport and heritage sectors.

Mr Smith said it was "a serious and timely review of the relationship between the Government and the cultural world". The Government could not just provide the money and sit back and hope for results, he said. "We will give direction; we will set targets and chase progress, and where appropriate we will take direct action to tially of six civil servants make sure that our objectives

A £290m grant will be phased Quest (Quality, Efficiency and in over three years, with arts Standards Team), yesterday as and museums the main winhe announced changes to the ners. The Arts Council of England's £190m budget would

April, to £237m in 2000, and to £252m in 2001. Museums and galleries would see their allocation rise from £203m this year to £247m in 2001.

The three-year deals would offer more stability, Mr Smith said. But he added: "In all cases the financial allocations will be closely tied to outcomes which reflect our four central themes - access, excellence and innovations, education and the creative industries."

ting up the new squad was riding roughshod over the "arm's length" principle - in which government gave money but did not interfere with the running of institutions - under which the arts have been fund-

ed since the Second World War. A Culture Department source said later that the "arm's length" principle has

increase to £227m from next been "reinvented". Mr Smith defended the change, saying that eventually Quest would be expanded. The idea was to include people with experience of running arts institutions

Mr Smith said that children and pensioners would have free access to museums from next year. Adults would continue to have free access to museums that are now free. Some £30m has been put into a fund while negotiations with museums continue The Science Mu-He was challenged that setseum and Natural History Museum in London are reluc-

tant to give up charging. David Barrie, director of the National Art Collections Fund, which campaigns for free admission, said: "Will the £30m which the Government has put aside for 2001 be enough to do the trick?"

leading article, Review



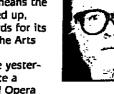
Children enjoying an interactive exhibit at the Science Museum, which is reluctant to end charges Robert Hallam

CULTURE OF CHANGE FOR A NEW ERA

THE ROYAL Fine Art Commission will be replaced by a new Architecture Commission to advise on architecture and disseminate good practice. "Coincidentally" this will mean farewell to Lord St John of Fawsley (right), the former Conservative cabinet minister Norman St John-Stevas, who chaired the RFAC and has been on New Labour's hit

list since before the general election. The various film-funding bodies will be brought together into a new British Film Council, which will also oversee the National Lottery money that goes towards film. This is yet another attempt to make the British film industry more of a competitor to Hollywood. Lord Attenborough (right) was heavily involved in the new body's creation.

The Arts Council of England and the Crafts Council will be brought together, which means the Crafts Council is swallowed up, though there are safeguards for its work with craftspeople. The Arts Council received a



15 per cent grant increase yesterday and is due to distribute a chunk of that to the Royal Opera

House on Thursday. The Royal Commission on the Historical nts of England is being subsumed into English Heritage to form a single body to look after England's historic buildings. A new strategic body, the Museums, Libraries

and Archives Council will be created to replace the existing Museums and Galleries Commission and the Library and Information Commission. A "transformed, more effective, slimmer" tourism body will replace the English Tourist Board.



Museum post signals end of curator power

THE BRITISH Museum will this BY DAVID LISTER week advertise for a managing director. The advertisement signals a new approach to running museums in this country which could ultimately mean

the end of the scholar director. Whoever gains the new post will work alongside the museum's director Dr Robert Anderson. But, crucially, the new managing director could earn more than Dr Anderson and he or she will be in charge of all financial and business matters.

Senior sources say the appointment of a managing director to one of the world's best known museums and Britain's leading tourist attraction has been demanded by Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, in discussions with the museum's chairman, Graham Greene.

It marks something that many in the museum world have long feared - the separation of responsibility for finance and curatorship.

The desire for business expertise is demonstrated by the ethos of the museum. But it is fact that the job is not being advertised in arts publications but in The Economist. Robert titude, away from the unique Anderson is on a salary of selling point of the British Mu-£81,000. A spokesman for the seum which is its collections.

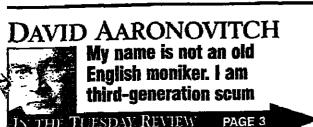
Arts News Editor

British Museum said that the new managing director's salary would be arranged "by negotiation" but would be in line with Dr Anderson's salary. However, he did not rule out the possibility that it could be more.

There have been particular worries about the British Museum following a report by a former Treasury official in 1996 which revealed that the museum didn't then have a qualified accountant, and urged that its displays be more eye-catching.

Mark Taylor, director of the Museums' Association, the professional body for museums and their staff, said yesterday: "You don't have to be a football observer to note that having two managers at Liverpool didn't work.

"I personally wouldn't rule out people with non-curatorial skills running museums provided they understand the very worrying if it means a shift towards a more commercial at-











Getting the message across, again and again and again

THERE ARE few phrases more baleful in the House than "Can my right honourable friend confirm?", at least, that is, when they are uttered by a loyal backbench MP If the invitation is made to "the right honourable gentleman" there is at least a faint possibility that something novel is to be confirmed. That the right honourable gentleman was seen leaving the Hot Tottie lap-dancing club last Thursday evening, perhaps, or that his assurances on tax harmonisation are as reliable as an ex-fleet Trabant. But when Gerald Kaufman asks the

the question is designed solely to Ministerial score-rate too, mostly allow Mr Blair to repeat himself.

Yesterday he took the opportunity, confirming without obvious arriety that on the whole it was better for us to engage constructively in European debates rather than emulate the long Conservative history of destructive negativism. This was a fruitful intervention on Mr Kaufman's part since without it the Prime Minister would only have been able to get this central message across 23 times (my figures may not be absolutely precise, you understand, but they're in the right ballpark). Naturally Tory backbenchers help rack up the Prime because the rare opportunity to put a Parliamentary question to Mr Blair will never be surrendered simply because it has already been an-

swered in the previous few minutes. Mr Hague gets the first crack at the PM, of course, and employs his own repetitions to do it. Responding to the Prime Minister's statement on the Vienna summit yesterday, he had chosen Mr Blair's consistency as the theme of the day and "saying one thing to one audience in one place and another to an audience in another" as the soundbite of the day. Some of us would have been grateful for a bit more THE SKETCH



THOMAS SUTCLIFFE

creative variation from Mr Blair, rather than less. He could usefully have said one thing to one audience Sir Peter has a yellowing Mac car-

in one place and something com- toon - in which a crop-haired figure off a cracked note. The Prime Minpletely different to the same audience a bit later. But it was not to be, in the face of a Tory party so aroused by the whiff of European co-operation that it rose as one when the Prime Minister sat down. a Mexican wave of instinctive revulsion. Award for the most lurid backbench contribution, in a botly contested competition, went to Sir Peter Tapsell, who sought reassurance that discussions of defence policy would not end with a 'German finger on the British nuclear trigger". Where other members have a vision of foreign policy

string of sausages around his neck reaches out a fat Teutonic digit for the button marked "The bomb".

Mr Hague himself has still not entirely recovered the form he displayed just after the Queen's Speech, and although his performance vesterday went through the motions, shining a bright light on communiqué statements in the hope of casting a spooky shadow on the opposite benches ("look children, this one's a rabbit with secret plans for a federal super-state") nothing truly delighted his troops. Even his valedictory witticism gave

with a pickelhaube helmet and a ister, he said, should come clean about exactly what he meant rather than "running around Europe giving more false impressions than Rory Bremner". True, Mr Bremner still has a little bit of polishing to do on his Mandelson, but otherwise most of his imitations are enjoyably accurate, which made Mr Hague's final barb sound more like an unprovoked attack on a innocent impressionist than an effective jab at the Prime Minister. Given Mr Hague's recent troubles with his public image I'm not sure this is the right moment to make new

Lunatics run Tory policy, says Blair

cused William Hague of having lost control over his party's European policy yesterday, claiming "lunatics had taken over the asylum".

Tony Blair, in a Commons statement on the European Council in Vienna, said the Conservative leader's policy was determined by the "headbangers" who served in his Shadow Cabinet.

Earlier, Mr Hague attacked the Prime Minister's denial that there would be uniform tax rates within the European Union, saying the Prime Minister's "habit of saying one thing to an audience in one place and another to an audience in another place is catching up with him".

Mr Hague agreed there was an "overwhelming case" for duty free sales to be kept, but attacked Mr Blair for "going with the flow" in his discussions with EU colleagues.

"Can you confirm that while you were telling the British media that the rebate was not up for negotiation, you were

By Sarah Schaefer Political Reporter

busily telling the Austrian media that there would be wide-ranging negotiations in which the rebate would come up for discussion?

'Wouldn't that be a much more effective way to ensure your thoughts are reported accurately than whining about the British press.

Rather than making pledges on uniform tax rates, Mr Blair should have insisted on an end to tax harmonisation, the Tory leader said, adding: "Wouldn't arguing against these real threats have demonstrated more backbone than arguing against imaginary threats?" Replying, Mr Blair said it

was "perfectly sensible" to try to reform some European tax for Manchester Gorton, said practices as they were "harmful to this country".
"If the Tories were in power

today, we would not have an ally anywhere, no influence, no authority, no ability to get our own way ... under your leadership

the lunatics have taken over the asylum. You're not running your party. The policy of your party is determined by the headbangers you have urrounded yourself with in the

"This country's national in-terest lies in being part of Europe. That's the way to win in Europe and that is what this Government shall do," he

Menzies Campbell, Liberal Democrat foreign affairs spokesman, welcomed Mr Blair's "apparent recent conversion to the view that government policy in Europe is determined by what is best for Britain, and not what is least offensive to certain newspaper proprietors".

Gerald Kaufman, the former Labour minister and MP "the best way to gain concessions, such as on duty free or the beef ban" was not by "the fantrums and hoveotts in which the other side indulged when in Government, but by co-opera-



The Conservative MP Virginia Bottomley MP, (left) who was Secretary of State for Health between 1992 and 1995, after giving evidence to the BSE inquiry, in London yesterday

TONY BLAIR is set to reject a HOUSE OF LORDS

late bid by Lord Jenkins, the

former SDP leader, to chair the

Royal Commission on the long-

term reform of the House of

Lord Jenkins, who was ap-

pointed by Mr Blair to head the

review on electoral reform, has

only recently delivered his re-

port but offered his services for

The Prime Minister has

taken advice from Lord Jenk-

ins since coming to office, but

has decided to appoint Lord

Butler, the former head of the

Cabinet Office under successive

prime ministers, as a non-par-

tisan chairman who would be

Lord Mackay, deputy Con-

servative leader in the Lords.

yesterday said Lord Jenkins

would not have been approved

by the Tories. The Commission

term reform of the Lords, in-

cluding direct elections. This

idea was supported last night

in a report by the Tory Bow

Group calling for the Upper

House to be made indepen-

the Conservative Party leader.

laid plans to force the Govern-

It came as William Hague,

dent of the Government.

will consider options for long-

acceptable to the Tories.

the review of Lords reform.

Lords.

Jenkins fails in bid to

head reform of Lords

Chief Political Correspondent

ment into a fresh constitutional

clash with the House of Lords.

ordered Tory peers to vote

down the Government's Bill to

allow the European elections to

be fought on a "closed list" sys-

to the Parliament Act for the

first time to override the Lords'

vote and force the Bill through

the European Parliamentary

Elections Bill will allow time for

three new Government Bills.

listed in order of priority by

Downing Street yesterday:

John Prescott's Bill to introd-

uce a rail regulator, the Ministry

of Agriculture Bill to introduce

a Food Standards Agency, and

a Bill to crack down on sleaze

in local government by allowing

claimed the high moral ground

over a system to which even

some Labour peers, MPs and

MEPs are opposed, on the

grounds that it gives party lead-

ers, not voters, the final choice

Tory peers last night

directly elected mayors.

Speeding up the passage of

in time for the elections.

Mr Blair will have to resort

The Conservative leader has

BY COLIN BROWN

tem of candidates.

Labour 'out to shackle mayor'

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT BY PAUL WAUGH and SARAH SCHAEFER

MINISTERS were accused yesterday of inserting "Livingstone clauses" into the Greater London Authority Bill to ensure that the capital's mayor kept in line with government policy.

Tories and Liberal Democrats said parts of the Bill would give sweeping powers to John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for the Environment.

More than 250 clauses in the proposed legislation were designed to prevent an independent-minded mayor such as Ken Livingstone from carrying out radical policies, they said.

Simon Hughes, the Liberal Democrat MP, who used the Commons debate to declare that he would stand for mayor, said the Bill would give Mr Prescott "Henry VIII"-style control over the new Greater London Authority (GLA).

Fears that Mr Livingstone MP for Brent East, might seek to turn the mayoralty into a new power base had led to the creation of the clauses designed severely to restrict its remit, said Mr Hughes.

One key section would allow the Environment Secretary to take from the mayor the proceeds of proposed "congestion charges" on London's roads.

said that it would protect such proceeds for the first 10 years of the GLA, Mr Hughes pointed out that the Bill gave it the power to rescind the promise.

Other "Livingstone clauses" meant that the mayor over which candidates to send would have to devise strategies in line with national policies and Lord Strathclyde, the Tory that the Environment Secretary leader in the Lords, said recould severely restrict mayjecting the European Parlia-

oral spending. Opening debate on the second reading of the Bill. Mr Prescott said the GLA would bring back the first city-wide administration since abolition of the Greater London Council in 1986 - providing badly needed

accountability and leadership He said: "It will strip away the shadowy committees, the burgeoning bureaucracies and quangos created by our predecessors and give Londoners back their voice."

The new authority would have "tremendous power and responsibility", and its relationship with the Environment Secretary would resemble the present relationship between

central and local government. The GLA would control a budget worth several billion pounds, have strategic powers over transport and economic development and would oversee a new democratically accountable police authority.

He added: "The next stage of devolution, if you like, might and would hopefully be towards re-

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87 SHOWROOMS NATIONWIDE







% nothing to pay until the year 2000 - not even a deposit

The House Opera House cash criteria THE ROYAL Opera House,

Covent Garden, must have "proper" management standards as a condition for more public money, Alan Howarth, the Arts minister

He gave his assurance after Michael Jack, the Tory MP for Fylde, said that the December's edition of Equity magazine had exposed "a tale of financial incompetence" at the ROH, adding: "How can there be now discussion of more public funding being made available for this sorry institution?"



No switch-on date for digital CHRIS SMITH. the

Secretary of State for Culture, ruled out setting a target date for switching Britain's free television channels to digital transmission until it was sure access would be as widely available and affordable. He said: "Poor people should not be forced to pay too much for the necessary equipment,"

Dome alone

to the European Parliament

mentary Elections Bill showed

the Tories would not be "soft"

on any legislation, in spite of the

recent controversy over deals

to allow 91 hereditary peers to

survive until the Royal Com-

erate on the Bill. We think it is

a bad Bill. It does bear an un-

democratic flaw which wrecks

the traditional right of the elec-

Lord Cranborne, who was

sacked by Mr Hague for doing

a deal behind his back with Mr

Blair about long-term reform of

the Lords, is not expected to

vote tonight. The decision to

vote the Bill down was taken

tween Lord Strathclyde and

Hague for sacking Lord

Cranborne were firmly behind

his tactics on the Bill. Lord St

John of Fawsley said: "I do

approve. This is an issue which

goes to the heart of the

Tory peers who attacked Mr

yesterday at a meeting be-

Mr Hague.

constitution."

torate to vote for a candidate,"

"We have no desire to co-op-

mission has reported.

said Lord Strathclyde.

THE NEW Millennium Experience Company, responsible for raising sponsorship for the Millennium Dome, is no longer using the services of the International Management Group. an independent consultancy. Peter Mandelson disclosed.

'Keegan' quip

SPORTS MINISTER Tony Banks drew loud laughter in the Commons after he dubbed bouffant-haired Tory Culture spokesman Peter Ainsworth a "Kevin Keegan lookalike." The reference to the footballer came during Question Time exchanges over the future of school sport.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Today's Business COMMONS

Health questions. **Greater London Authority** Bill, second reading, Debate on European Common Fisheries Policy. Short debate on alternative fuels for freight vehicles, LORDS: Youth Justice and Criminal

Evidence Bill, second reading. European Parliamentary Elections Bill, second

reading.

Banker 'loses his battle to stay

A NIGERIAN man who built a By JASON BENNETTO successful business after being abandoned in Britain as a boy lost his latest deportation battle yesterday and now faces being sent back to Africa.

The state of the s

- GOVERNIEN

The Court of Appeal rejected an application from Ben James, 29, to have his case referred to the House of Lords.

He is now planning a lastditch plea to Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, to show compassion and not deport him. He may also take his case to the European Court.

Mr James, a commodities broker from East Dulwich London, was brought to Britain at the age of 14 by his father who feared political persecution and was enrolled in a private school. During his time there he lost contact with his parents.

Mr James, who has received backing from MP and Health crime. But I've paid my taxes Minister Tessa Jowell, said after yesterday's ruling: "I'm extremely upset, depressed and angry. I don't know where the future lies. I can't go back Roch and Lord Justice Waller to where I came from. I don't know the place. I have no home or friends there or enough money to start again. I don't ing that he did not have an ar-

Crime Correspondent

Britain is my home. I have been told I could be arrested at any moment now and put on a plane to Nigeria."

Mr James fell foul of the immigration authorities by failing to apply for an extension when his original permission to live here as a student ran out in 1986. His case came to light when he approached the Home Office in 1991, trying to put things right. A seven-year legal battle followed

He said: "What I am hoping for is that the Home Secretary will show a little compassion at the end of the day.

"One wonders what the definition of compassion is. I didn't choose to be left here as a child, nor have I committed any and employed other people in my business. What more could you ask?"

Yesterday, Lord Justice rejected his application for leave to seek judicial review. They upheld a High Court rul-



Ben James, who faces deportation after yesterday's ruling. 'I'm hoping the Home Secretary will show a little compassion,' he said Tom Craig

a review of the Home Secretary's decisions not to grant him indefinite leave to remain here and to confirm a deportation order signed in 1994.

Dismissing the application. Lord Justice Roch said the even speak the language. guable case Mr James wanted Home Secretary had been en-

titled to decide last July that the 15 years Mr James had spent building his life in Britain did not outweigh the need for "effective immigration control".

Lord Justice Roch said Mr James had made no attempt to regularise his position until

April 1991 and was therefore not fice on compassionate grounds. entitled to rely on long-term residence as a valid ground for being allowed to stay.

Outside court, Mr James's solicitor, Tiki Emezie, said further representations would now be made to the Home Of-

An application could also be made to the European Court of Human Rights, based on the argument that it would be "inhumane and degrading treatment" to deport Mr James.

by the Government in July that all asylum-seekers who arrived in Britain before 1993 would be given leave to stay, ministers have backed moves to deport Mr James. They argue that his case was being examined

Lalique glasses doctored by fakers

BY CATHY COMERFORD

A CASE of mistaken identity in which a buyer paid £500,000 for what turned out to be doctored art deco glass could have reper-

cussions for collectors. The value of supposedly rare purple Lalique glass objects has already fallen and is likely to drop further after a case in the High Court yesterday.

Motor racing tycoon Mansour Ojjeh was awarded £845,000 in damages after the court decided that his collection of purple Lalique car mascots had been artificially coloured long after they were made.

Mr Ojjeh who part owns the McLaren Formula One racing team had paid £60,000 each for the 17 deep purple sculptures made by René Lalique. He had also given his own clear crystal glass Lalique mascots in exchange. The court heard how he had been told that the colour made the sculptures more rare and added to their value.

But Mr Justice Buckley ruled vesterday that the colour had been added by a radiation process, possibly in the last 20 years, although he acknowledged the gallery owner who sold them would not have known this, His judgment was supported by evidence from art experts who said Lalique would never have coloured the glass artefacts as it would have been "too vulgar".

The clear glass car mascots, which now sell for about £24,000, were made in France during the Twenties and Thirties. Judge Buckley said: "The dark purple colour does indeed destroy the sense of grace, movement and speed in some of these pieces. Based on all the material before me, I cannot envisage Rene Lalique using this colour to enhance or even as a variation for his mascots."

The case was brought against gallery owner, Mark Waller, a Lalique glass expert, and his company Galerie Moderne, of Belgravia, London, for negligence and breach of contract. The judge found he had not been negligent as he was not expected to be an expert in radiation colouring. However. dy giving dis dersonal assu ance of authenticity had been in breach of contract.

After the hearing in London. Michael Sears, solicitor for Mr Ojjeh, said the purple mascots had been fetching around £121,000 before the irradiation process was discovered. They now barely reach £6,000 a piece.

Mr Waller was ordered to pay £360,402 damages and Galerie Moderne £485,347 damages. They were also ordered to pay Mr Ojjeh's costs of

Genetic remedy found to Payouts for staff in reverse muscle wastage

SCIENTISTS HAVE found a way BY STEVE CONNOR of permanently preventing muscle wastage in old age in a development that could also be nisused to boost athletic performance in the young.

revolutionary treatment could become the basis of a possible cure for the thousands of children with muscular dystrophy. causes muscles to degenerate. the breakthrough, which may of a person's muscles, could be improvement or to boost ath-

Experiments on laboratory mice showed that infecting the Lee Sweeney, Professor of

Science Editor

animals with a genetically engineered virus increased their muscle strength by 15 per cent The researchers believe the in young individuals and by up to 27 per cent in older mice - effectively restoring them to their

youthful strength. The virus, which was renin which an inherited fault dered harmless before extra genes for a muscle-building But they have also warned that factor were added, could one day be used on humans who, permanently increase the size like mice, also become feeble with age as a result of muscle angly applied for cosmetic loss. "Our results show that it may be possible to preserve muscle size and strength in old age using this approach," said

the research team.

-- "We're now looking to see whether the technique might improve their quality of life." also be used to increase muscle strength in diseases s muscular dystrophy." Details of the research,

which will be published later this month in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, were released yesterday at the American Society for Cell Biology in San Francisco.

Professor Kay Davies, of Oxford University, an authority on the genetics of muscular dystrophy, said: "This type of therapy is likely to be generally applicable to man and is a very promising development.

Physiology at the University of This approach may also be Pennsylvania and the head of used to improve muscle strength in muscular dystrophy patients which would greatly

> The virus used in the experiments, called adeno-asso ciated virus, was engineered with a gene for a substance known to trigger the growth of muscle cells during the repair of damaged tissue. Injecting the muscles of older mice with the virus caused it to infect the animals' cells, introducing the growth-factor gene as it spread

within the tissues. Professor Sweeney said that a number of ethical considerations will have to be addressed before the technique could be used on humans.

A FORMER Tory MP and other BY PAUL WAUGH leading figures implicated in the Political Correspondent

Westminster council "homes for votes" scandal are set to receive more than £700,000 to cover their legal bills. gainst a £27m s

Ministers were reported to be "furious" vesterday when it emerged that three councillors and four council officers linked to the affair would be compensated by the Tory authority. The seven men were criticised by the district auditor for their involvement in the scandal, but were cleared of any wilful misconduct.

Under a report to go before a private meeting of Westminster council tomorrow night, they could receive up to £165,000 each. Tesco heiress mer leader of the council, and

homes-for-votes row

Dame Shirley Porter could also be paid up to £1m from public funds if she wins her appeal posed on her.

The council's Labour opposition yesterday called on the district auditor to investigate the plan to reimburse former Tory councillors Barry Legg, Alex Segal and Miles Young and the officers.

The report recommends that Mr Legg, who became Tory MP for Milton Keynes before losing his seat at the last general election, should receive £165,000. Mr Young, a for-

Mr Segal should get £80,000. The former managing director of the council. Bill Phillips, will be offered £101,000. A staff association that represented three other officers will be oftered £350,000. A seven-year inquiry found

Westminster's former leader. Dame Shirley Porter and her former deputy, David Weeks, guilty of operating an illegal policy of selling flats in marginal wards to potential Tory voters instead of housing the homeless. However, the other councillors and officers were cleared of the most serious charges and now believe that they are entitled to compensation. Ministers turned down similar requests from two councillors this year. | £150,000.



WPC Katie Willis (seated, on bench) on the lookout for stolen dogs in a south London park yesterday. There has been a spate of canine thefts in the area recently.

Arafat trembles with emotion as the red carpet rolls out for Clinton

HASSAN, a young Palestinian in Jabalya refugee camp close to the centre of Gaza city, was not happy as he waited for the Palestinian leadership to drop the anti-Israel clauses in the Palestinian charter "I want the refugees to be able to go back before they change it." he

These were not wise words on a day when Yasser Arafat. the Palestinian leader, was straining every nerve to make a success of the visit of the United States President Bill Clinton to Gaza, the self-ruled Palestinian enclave. Eight plainclothes policemen stepped forward to remove Hassan for a quick interrogation over what he had said about the visiting American leader.

Palestinians in the streets of Gaza were sceptical. Ibrahim Ali, a money changer watched impassively as Hassan was arrested. "The Clinton visit may put us on the road to a state, but it does more for [Arafat's] Palestinian Authority that it does for the people," he said. "Gaza is still just one big prison."

doubts would have been evident to President Clinton when his helicopter landed at the newly opened Gaza international airport yesterday morning.

The control tower had almost disappeared inside two Aviv had moved en masse to enormous American and Palestinian flags. Wall posters just up the coast in Israel. showed Mr Clinton and Mr From there they have com-Arafat, apparently hand in muted each day for weeks to hand, with the slogan: "We Have A Dream". Offshore, a been allowed to spend one flotilla of festively decorated night in Gaza. "You've never Palestinian fishing boats seen such paranoia," one moved up and down the coast. complained.

"Except for Monica Lewinsky], nobody loves President so many red carpets to meet Clinton like Arafat," said an foreign leaders in the past 30 American diplomat cited by the Israeli press.

When President Clinton and Mr Arafat addressed the Palestinian leadership in the Shawwa centre in the heart of Gaza later in the day. Mr at the airport the American Arafat several times enfolded leader said the Palestinian the US President's hands in people were free to "determine going to take place. his own. In words that cast their own destiny on their own light on the importance he land". He cut a ribbon to open his political life. He needs the invests in this visit, the Pales- the airport, though it was support of the hard-right to tinian leader repeated: "Pales- opened with great fanfare sevtine is reborn again, reborn again." Palestinian police and soldiers were making strenuous efforts to ensure nothing might spoil the rebirth.

There were checkpoints every eration Organisation to its turn into reality.

By Patrick Cockburn

200 yards on roads far from where the American and forms. Palestinian leaders were

A small boy, with a Palestinian flag attached to the back of his bicycle, tried to ride along the road which goes past Mr Arafat's headquarters. The boy was rapidly turned around by three soldiers carrying submachine-guns.

In Shati refugee camp, pected to visit a women's centre, Lieutenant Subhi Azami, who had grown up in Beirut and had fought against Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982, was directing hundreds of police and soldiers as they sealed off roads. He pointed out that Mrs Clinton, unlike her husband, bad said she hoped the Palestinians would have their own state.

Looking round at the narhouses, whose poverty a lastminute clean up did not conceal, he said: "Maybe the Americans will see how we are None of these private suffering here." As he spoke. two Israeli jets soared overhead, emphasising the limits of Palestinian sovereignty.

The anxiety about security was as much American as Palestinian. Diplomats from the American embassy in Tel the Holiday Inn in Ashkelon organise the visit. None has

Mr Arafat has walked down years that the people of Gaza are dubious about how much good President Clinton's visit will do them.

For once, their cynicism may be misplaced. On arriving eral weeks ago.

Mr Arafat is relishing the change in American policy towards the Palestinians.

Twenty years ago a senior All the streets in central American official, prematurely how many of the fine words Gaza were closed to traffic. assigning the Palestine Lib- spoken in Gaza yesterday will

grave, said: "Bye, bye PLO". Yesterday President Clinton was addressing its leaders, all dressed in suits and uni-

"The Palestinians see it as the beginning of the fulfilment of a messianic vision and an independent state." writes Hemi Shalev, the Israeli commentator. "They are drunk with the smell of the strategic revolution they have carried in their relations with the American government '

Mr Arafat's strategy has where Hillary Clinton was ex- been to agree to everything the Americans wanted. Yesterday he got his reward.

He had signed on to the Wye agreement in October under which he will get back only 13 per cent of land on the West Bank. This means that Israel will continue to hold one-third of the Gaza Strip and 60 per cent of the West Bank. In his speech President Clinton praised the Palestinians for continuing to negotiate when row lanes and breeze block they had good reasons "for walking away".

For the first time Presi-

dent Clinton sympathetically mentioned Palestinian grievances such as the prisoners still held by Israel, Jewish settlements, the confiscation of land and demolition of Palestinian homes. He compared the grief of the children of Palestinian prisoners to that of the children of Israelis who were killed fighting Pales-

None of this will be good news for Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, whose prolonged delay in implementing the Oslo accords is blamed by many Israelis for changing American attitudes. There was something plaintive in the way President Clinton told the Palestinians that they should revoke the clauses in the Palestinian charter not to please the Israeli government "but to touch the people of Israel".

President Clinton may suspect that the Israeli withdrawal from another 5 per cent of the West Bank scheduled for next Friday, is not

Mr Netanyahu is fighting for mentary confidence vote next week. He will not get it if the withdrawal goes ahead. Palestinians in Jabalya refugee camp may be right to wonder



Palestinian schoolgirls holding a poster welcoming President Bill Clinton to Gaza yesterday Ruth Fremson/AP

Gore calls for Clinton censure

By Mary Dejevsky in Washington

THE White House appealed for a compromise yesterday as the House of Representatives prepared for its historic debate on Thursday on whether to impeach President Bill Clinton over the Monica Lewinsky affair.

The switch of tack came amid growing fears that the Democrats would be unable to muster the simple majority needed to defeat impeachment in the House and fend off a trial in the Senate. Vice-President Al Gore, in

his first comment since articles of impeachment - alleging perjury, obstruction of justice and abuse of power - were passed by the House judiciary committee, called on Congress to censure rather than impeach.

Acknowledging that Mr Clinton's conduct in the Lewinsky affair was "terribly wrong", he condemned Republican leaders for "forcing this vote that the American people do not want".

Mr Clinton, speaking from Gaza, reiterated his own readiness to accept a congressional reprimand. "I have offered to make every effort to make any reasonable compromise with the Congress," he told reporters. But he commented: "I don't believe it's in the interest of the United States and the American people to go through this impeachment process and have a trial in the Senate."

Leading Republicans have stipulated that he must admit to lying under oath as the prelude to any compromise. But the White House sees the demand as a trap that could make the President liable to prosecution when he leaves office.

Meanwhile, telephone calls from Clinton aides to the 30 or clared ahead of Thursday's vote were said to be making little headway. Attempts to mobilise sympathetic business leaders to give warning of the risks to the national wellbeing from a Senate trial were writ

Iran's intelligentsia shaken by wave of murders

"WE ARE expecting some more sassinations," a source close to the Iranian security services told me a few weeks ago.

When he spoke. Darioush Forouhar and his wife had already been killed but the grisly murders of three other Ira-

mians had yet to be committed. "President Khatami went to

Over 50?

BY ROBERT FISK Middle East Correspondent

the UN, to tell Iranian people to come back, to invest, to promise them that in Iran everything is now done according to the law.

"Forouhar's murder was an apparently been strangled. attempt to show the world - and the United States to speak at Iranians - that Iran is not safe."

lawiessness has gone beyond even my informant's worst nightmares. Mohamed Jafar Pouyandeh had been missing since last Wednesday and his body was found only on Sunday: the 45-year-old writer had

Just four days earlier, another writer - Mohamed

a garbage tip, also strangled.

Forouhar, leader of the small opposition Iran Nation Party, and his wife Pavaneh were both stabbed to death in November: A third writer, Majid Sharif, also died last month, though relatives say he may have been the victim of a heart attack. But the Islamic Repub-

country's newly liberated intelligentsia. The sadism of the attacks is as frightening as the threat it obviously represents to President Mohamed Khatami who is perhaps the most popularly elected leader in the en-

tire Middle East. Somebody wants to destroy

Now the demonstration of Mokhtari – had been found on lic is clearly the victim of a very the civil society Mr Khatami wessness has gone beyond a garbage tip, also strangled. creepy series of assaults on the proclaimed after his election last year and the usual suspects

are being fingered. The clerics who never accepted any deviation from Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's anti-western, theocratic regime - the current Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Akbar Khamenei, and his supporters - obviously come to mind.

Tehran's progressive mayor, Gholamhussein Karbaschi - a Khatami ally – on dubious charges of corruption? Who organised the stone-throwing attack on a bus load of American tourists last month? The "Fedayin of Islam" who claimed responsibility was clearly a cover name. Who planned the assault on Ataollah Mohadierani. Mr Khatami's spokesman, who was pushed to

Who was behind the trial of

day prayers and beaten up? Ahmed Rezai, the young son of a senior Iranian official, said in the United States that Ayatollah Khamenei and his coleagues were planning a coup against President Khatami. But the Iranian security services have apparently not come

the floor of a mosque after Fri-

to any conclusions. True, Forouhar had "critiised Khamenei too much," as one Tehran businessman put it bliquely. Before her death, his wife Pavaneh had told the New York-based Human Rights Watch that the couple lived in lear of being murdered, adding that they thanked God each evening for granting them another day on earth.

But one Tehran daily newsaper – its owner none other than Mr Kharbaschi, the city's leposed mayor - pointed out that the gruesome murders may be part of an outside attempt to set Iranians against the Revolutionary Guards and



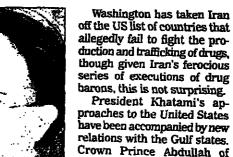
Under pressure: President Khatami

"You must remember that the CIA pushed small groups in Italy to kill opposition people so as to sow suspicion," the tranian security source said. "There are many people in the West who do not want our President to succeed, who would like him to fail so that Iran can be regarded again as a backward country full of what you call "terrorists". Some people in Washington don't want to see enlightenment in Iran."

The killings have come when Iran's democracy is beginning to take on a human and very real shape. A new reform party, the Islamic Iran Participation Front, has been founded to stand behind President Khatami's supporters in February's municipal elections ~ a poli with a million candidates for 250,000 seats which will give wide decentralised powers to

town councils throughout Iran. The founders of the new party include a vice-president four ministers, seven deputy ministers, nine journalists, a poet, a film producer and two

student union leaders. So broad is the spectrum of political debate that Iranians must read at least six newspapers to understand what is happening to their country,



mit of Islamic nations in Tehran a year ago and now President Khatami has been invited to visit the kingdom by King Fahd. Iran has meanwhile refused to be intimidated by American claims that it is developing weapons of mass destruction. And the Iranian defence minister, Ali Shamkhani, has warned that an Israeli attack on Syria - Iran's ally since the early Eighties - will be met by an

Saudi Arabia attended a sum-

Iranian military response. "If there is an Israeli attack against Syria, we'll reply in a way which the Israelis cannot imagine," Admiral Shamkhani said in September, just after the Iranians showed for the first time their Shehab-3 missile, which, with a minimum range of 800 miles, could reach targets in Israel, Turkey, the Gulf or even parts of Russia.

Clearly, Iran still has enemies outside its borders who would be as pleased to see the collapse of President Khatami's "civil society" as his domestic opponents.



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Wall hero is now on trial in Berlin

IN THE simplistic mythology of BY IMRE KARACS the Cold War. East German border guards were the villains and those battling against them heroes. But yesterday this world was turned upside down when one such hero found himself in the dock for the murder of a guard shot in cold

blood 36 years ago. Rudolf Muller, a baker who in 1962 had brought his family to the West through a tunnel he dug under the wall, is believed to be the first West German to stand trial for a crime which until now was considered legitimate. It is another twist in this moral maze in which hundreds of East Germans have been convicted for carrying out orders to shoot refugees. whilst the Politburo members issuing those orders have mostly wriggled out of iail.

in Bonn

both sides of the barbed wire manipulated people and events to suit their propaganda purposes. Mr Müller was allowed to dig his tunnel from the West Berlin basement of the rabidly anti-communist newspaper publishers Axel-Springer Verlag. Then, upon his triumphant return to West Berlin, the authorities adjusted the story of his escape, blaming the death of a 20-year-old East German private, named Reinhold Huhn. on a fellow guard.

According to the statement he gave to West Berlin police after his escape, Mr Müller crossed to the East on 18 June 1962 to bring his family to the building near Checkpoint Charlie where his tunnel led. They Mr Muller's case is all the were stopped by the guard, more glaring because it illus- who was armed with a machine trates how Cold Warriors on gun. While the soldier was uments, pulled out a gun and



searching his bag, Mr Müller claims to have knocked him down. Another border guard then allegedly opened fire, hitting his colleague accidentally.

The East German version was quite different. They claimed Mr Müller reached into his breast pocket pretending to be fumbling for doc-

shot the guard at point-blank range without warning.

Pte Huhn was proclaimed a true-grit Communist hero, a street was named after him, and a plaque erected. Mr Müller, meanwhile, was fêted by the West for his daring raid.

Now, nine years after the fall of the wall. Berlin prosecutors believe the enemy might have had a point. Witnesses have come forward describing the event as a simple case of shootand-run, with Mr Muller, now 67, cast as the man who fired the fatal bullet. In the light of the new investigation, Mr Müller's first press conference in the West, before the final, radically different version, is construed as a confession. Asked by reporters how many times he had pulled the trigger, he had replied: "Once. The man fell

The trial is expected to con-

down immediately."

100 words of the century – but no 'Nazis'

WHILE OTHER countries are BY IMRE KARACS still struggling to erect a fitting in Bonn archway to the new century, Germany has completed its and "genocide". The Nazis did millennium project a year not merit an entry, even though ahead of schedule. A jury of the foreign concept of "fasseven eminent persons from the German-speaking world yesterday unveiled their definitive list of the 100 most im- Reich" was not. portant words of the last 100

speakers will pen riveting essays on each word, which will all be broadcast during the proming 12 months, and the printed versions will be bound that, Millennium Dome.

Well, maybe it can. One eminent female person in Berlin From industry, "Volkswagen has already spotted one blatant omission - the list has "peace movement" but not "women's movement". Historians are also

feeling a little let down. Germans have been living in interesting times, so compion to get into the top 100 at fierce. "Führer" made it, as well as "Holocaust", "concentration camp" "deportation"

cism" got in. And whereas the "Third World" was deemed worthy of inclusion, "Third

Another defector, the East German soldier Hans Conrad Schumann, was immortalised in this 1961 photograph,

leaping over the barbed-wire barricade that was to become the Berlin Wall to join his family in the West

As befitting a century of wars, the list is weighed down From Aids to Wolkenkratzer by many military terms. "Panz-- "skyscraper" – modernity is er", "Molotov cocktail" and "Udistilled on to a small sheet. Be- boat" are the epoch-making tween now and 31 January words. "Luftkrieg" - aerial war-1999, more eminent German- fare - is there, but strangely, "Blitzkrieg" is not.

From the Anglo-Saxon world the German language acquired several treasures, including "design", "comics", "jeans" and itics, it has gained almost nothing except "reunification" made it as the only trade-mark.

"Currency reform", the creation of the mighty Deutschmarkfw 50 years ago, obviously had a deep enough impact to be included in the gallery of important words. But "monetary union", due to take place in two weeks' time, will have to fight its way into the top 100 in the coming century.

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Anwar's indignity of soiled bedding

IN THE LATEST bizarre devel- By RICHARD LLOYD PARRY opment in the trial of Anwar Ibrahim, prosecutors will today xhibit a semen-stained matress upon which the Malaysian opposition leader allegedly conducted an adulterous affair.

A senior officer from the Malaysian Criminal Investigation Department testified yesterday that a mattress and pillow had been removed from an apartment complex in Kuala Lumpur where Mr Anwar, then the country's deputy prime minister, is accused of having had sex with the wife of his former private secretary.

He has been charged with abusing his power as a minister to suppress allegations of adultery, as well as five counts of sodomy.

"On the mattress I found sevseminal fluid." Musa Hassan, deputy director of the CID, told the court, to sniggers from the public gallery. He said laboratory tests were being conducted to determine the origins of the semen, though the results were not revealed yesterday.

Allegations about Mr Anwar's affair with his secretary's wife were first made made a similar warning yespublic over the summer in a book entitled Fifty Reasons Why Anwar Cannot Become alleged "a systematic cam-Prime Minister.`

himself being prosecuted for spreading "false news", claimed a daughter born to the woman was fathered by Anwar. But an earlier set of DNA tests appeared to have disproved that claim.

Ever since being sacked by Prime Minister, Mahathir Mohamad, on grounds of immorality, Mr Anwar has insisted that he is the victim of a polit-

ical conspiracy.

Early on - in an attempt to prove Mr Anwar abused his power, the head of Malaysia's special branch told the court that police intimidate witness

es for political reasons. Last week, the court heard lurid testimony from Mr eral patches believed to be Anwar's former chauffeur who described his employer's "animal" lust during their homosexual trysts; later, he apparently admitted that they never took place.

One of Mr Anwar's defence lawyers narrowly avoided going to jail, after the judge, Augustine Paul, found him guilty of contempt of court. Judge Paul terday after the chief defence lawyer, Christopher Fernando, paign" against his client.

HAMISH MCRAE



A bright six-year-old on a computer can find out as much as the average MP

lowering the flag



China grooms Hu, the next emperor

THE REST of the world will this BY TERESA POOLE week get its first real chance in Peking to see China's new emperor-in-

Hu Jintao, the man unofficially anointed to succeed President Jiang Zemin early next century, is scheduled to appear in his first significant diplomatic role when he represents China on Wednesday in informal talks with the Association of South-east Asian Countries (Asean) in Hanoi.

Who Hu? is likely to be most people's response. Here is the man who is ear-marked to become the leader of the world's largest country, yet his name is virtually unknown outside China except, infamously, among Tibet-watchers.

He was the region's party secretary when, in March 1989, anti-Chinese demonstrations were violently crushed in Lhasa. Even within his own country, Mr Hu is a politician in need of an image, though the

official biography tries hard to cast him as man in contact with the younger generation. "When he worked in the Communist Youth League Central Committee, he occasionally danced solo at parties," it reveals.

Given China's opaque political system, all that is clear is that Mr Hu is now the heir apparent. He was already the youngest member of the politburo's standing committee when, earlier this year, he was appointed vice-president.

The Asean meeting has been chosen as the springboard for a more high-profile role for Mr Hu on the world stage, part of the process of grooming him to take over from Mr Jiang as party chief in 2002, at the 16th Chinese Communist Party Congress.

As such he is designated to become the "core of the fourth



56-year-old heir

generation leadership". But what sort of a man is Mr Hu? Young, for sure, having reached his current position at the age of 56, long before many leaders have left the middle-ranks.

Professor David Shamhaugh, at George Washington University, said little was known about what Mr Hu represented. "He has not had anything to do with the economy. he has not had anything to do with military affairs, he has not had anything to do with foreign policy. They are now trying, in making him vice president, to get him to interact with foreigners more," he said.

Trained as an engineer, Mr Hu rose to prominence as head of the party's Youth League, and at 42 became the youngest provincial party secretary, in the southern region of Guizhou

From 1988-92, he held the top party post in Tibet, though he spent little time there because he reportedly could not cope with the altitude. Lhasa stands at 16,500ft above sea level. In 1992, he was catapulted on

mittee, partly in recognition of his hardline tactics in Tibet. According to the official biography. Mr Hu once said that a good leader should "be capable of taking resolute action at critical moments".

Hu Jintao: Jiang Zemin's

So far, Mr Hu has kept his political thoughts to himself, assiduously backing Mr Jiang's position in posts as president of the Party School and Party Central Committee In other words, Mr Hu is a

classic Communist Party apparatchik, with no discernible patriarchal qualities.

Gerry Segal, a China expert at the International Institute for Strategic Studies, describes Mr Hu as a "swing voter" at a time when the entire Chinese leadership remains "dazed by the bonfire of the certainties that is ravaging East Asia". The fact that Mr Jiang is fol-

lowing in the mould of Mao Tsetung and Deng Xiaoping in trying to anoint his own successor shows a certain lack of vision about China's political culture. "To that extent, Hu is the natural successor to Jiang. but also a natural reason to worry about China's future," said Mr Segal Of course, heirs apparent in

China know they have to watch their backs. Two of Deng Xiaoping's chosen successors, Hu Yaobang and Zhao Ziyang, fell by the wayside when it became politically desirable for their mentor to abandon them.

The ever-cautious Mr Hu must know that four years as an emperor-in-waiting is a long

Hard times make hard men humble

STREET LIFE SAMOTECHNY LANE, MOSCOW

"TELEPHONE! IT'S for you, racketeers, hinting darkly at Costya, my husband, picked up the receiver and I heard him say to this Dima: "Look, I thought we had agreed you were going to leave me in peace for a few months."

Dima, I discovered, is the young sidekick of Uncle Boris, the mafia godfather who keeps Costya's rock and fashion business under his wing. I have known for some time that Costya, like every other Russian small businessman, has a krysha or roof of protection. That is how the system works here. Only recently, however, have I learnt more of the workings of Russia's ubiquitous protection

"OK, I'll see you on the Arbat," Costya told Dima on this occasion. When he returned from the meeting. I gleaned a fascinating little detail about the mafia's current affairs.

Since the economic crash, Russian businesses have not been able to afford to pay dues to the godfathers who, in the absence of effective police, offer a kind of security, which is also, of course, an illegal tax. In the autumn. Uncle Boris agreed with Costya that he could have a "tax holiday" until his business began to make profits again. However, it seems that Uncle Boris is

now hard up himself. "Dima took me to a café," said Costya. "He does not usually do that. He usually comes to my office to pick up the money for Uncle Boris. He was trying to be nice to me."

Dima did not demand cash. Instead, he pleaded and told Costya a sob story. One of the "lads" had been injured in a shoot-out while protecting a business, he said. The gangster's treatment in hospital was costing \$200 (£120) a day. "Donations would be gratefully accepted." "I refused," said Costya. "I'm broke. I told him: 'Listen

mate, you can't get blood out of a stone." Dima had no

choice but to take this message back to Uncle Boris. In the West, you may be bothered by unwanted insurance salesmen. In Russia, as soon as you have a visible shop window, you can expect

a visit from the protection

some guy called Dima." the "risks" that you will be running if you do not accept their services.

The mafia gangs divide along ethnic lines but contrary to what Russian nationalists say - that only the nasty, swarthy Caucasians belong to these bands - there are plenty of ethnic Russian groups as well. A court in Geneva last week tried to prove that a certain Sergei Mikhailov led the mafia in the Solntsevskaya district of Moscow and laundered money in Switzerland but it was forced to acquit him for lack of evidence.

Costya, being a small fish, has a relatively minor godfather. Uncle Boris is an old criminal from a provincial Russian city. He is a "thief in law" or figure of authority among ex-labour camp inmates and enforces a moral code, which boils down to the tribal idea: "If you hurt one of mine, I hurt you",

At first, he charged Costya a modest \$300 per month for his insurance cover. But after Costya was held up at gunpoint by rival protection racketeers and Uncle Boris's intervention was required, the price went up to \$1,200.

"It was as if I had used up my no-claims bonus," joked

Every month, Dima, who wears a smart wool coat and heavy gold jewellery, would make the collection. About 150 other small businesses were also liable for this "tax", so you can work out how much profit Uncle Boris was making before the economic crisis.

He never made any overt threats. He did not need to. Costya knew that if he tried to manage without protection, some problem would inevitably arise, a bomb, say, in his storehouse, and he would have to admit that Uncle Boris was indispensable.

"It's blackmail, it's a bur den," said Costya. "But what can i do?"

Indeed, as long as the mafia is the real power in the land, usurping the protecting and revenue-raising functions of the state, little people will be helpless. Helpless, but not necessarily mute. Which is why I have spoken about this. HELEN WOMACK

Christmas snacks cost peanuts at Sainsbury's.





Pringles 170g/200g £1.29 3 for the price of 2

Twiglets/Cheeselets caddies £1.75 3 for the price of 2

KP nut pot range from £1.79 Special Christmas purchase



from Sainsbury's

حكدا من الأجل

WEY MARKET RATES

100 EENN M

BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Tarmac and Al talks collapse

TALKS BETWEEN Tarmac and Aggregate Industries over a £1.8bn merger of their building materials operations collapsed at the last minute last night amid a bitter row between the companies' chief executives.

The negotiations over a no-premium merger to form the UK's largest construction group are understood to have foundered over the role of Sir Neville Simms, chief executive of Tarmac and chairman-designate of the combined group. AI's chief executive, Peter Tom, is thought to have rejected Sir Neville's appointment as cochairman of a key committee charged with overseeing the integration of the two groups. Sources close to Tarmac said Mr Tom's change of mind was an attempt to take over the company without paying a premium.

Sears braced for bid from Green



SEARS, the struggling retail group, is braced for a takeover bid as speculation mounts that Philip Green, the retail entrepreneur is preparing a £460m move

Sir Bob Reid, the Sears chairman (pictured), said yesterday: "I think he'll probably have a go this week but we'll have to wait and see. It would be surprising if, after all this

talk, there isn't something there. I'm expecting something during the course of the next few days." Sears confirmed that its advisers have been in touch with the Takeover Panel about pushing Mr Green to clarify his intentions. Sir Bob said he was concerned about being dragged into a negotiating process where the actual offer price bore little resemblance to the original headline figure. "I don't want someone coming in with a top-line figure, then after the due diligence

process, making an offer of 25 per cent less." Sears shares fell 14.5p to 267p yesterday as the group's largest shareholder, Phillips & Drew, reduced it holding to 23.85 per cent. Outlook, page 17

Antrim video plant under threat

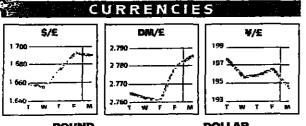
UP TO 1,000 jobs in a video recorder factory in Northern Ireland are at risk, the South Korean group Daewoo warned. Daewoo said its plant in Antrim was threatened by economic restructuring by South Korea that might force Daewoo to sell its electronics interests to Samsung. This would almost certainly lead to the plant's closure as most of Samsung's electronics business was in Eastern Europe.

FTSE 100	DOW JONES	MIKKEI
750	9200	5000
690	9000	14600
550	8800	14200
7 W T F M	5600	13900

radex	Close	Cuego	Change(%)	52 wk bigs	52 wk low Yi	eld(%)
FTSE 100	5534.50	-7.20	-0.13	6183.70	4599.20	3.40
FTSE 250	4706.50	-30.40	-0.64	5970.90	4247.60	491
FTSE 350	2620.90	-5.60	-0.21	2969.10	2210.40	3.63
FTSE All Share	2530 B1	-5.46	-0.22	2886.52	2143.53	3 68
FTSE SmallCap	2007.80	-4.80	-0.24	2793.80	1834.40	4.18
FISE Fledgling	1120.70	-2.50	-0.26	1517.10	1046.20	0.00
FTSE AIM	800 30	0.20	0.03	1146.90	761.30	0.00
FISE EBLOC 100	913.57	-0.16	-0.02			
Dow Jones	8757.65	-56.39	-0.64	9380.20	7400.30	1.71
Nikhei	14111.62	-294 02	-2.04	17352.95	12787.90	1.04
Hang Seng	9825.21	-126.79	-1.27	11926 16	6544.79	3.17
Day	4533 OC	12.24	A 20	6317 03	3033 71	1 07

SHORT STERLING	UK 10 YEAR GELT	US LONG BOND
6 \$0	4 60	504
6.45	455	500
	1	
640	450	14.96
6 35 T W 7 F M	4 45 T	4 92

MC	MEA 1	IARK	ET RA	TES	BOND YIELDS				
today.	3 month	Yr chg	7 Year	Yr chg	10 year	Yr chg	Long bond	Yr chg	
UK	6.36	-1.36	5.75	-2.06	4,47	-1.80	4.38	-1.82	
US_	5.22	-0.69	4 98	-1.04	4.57		4.98		
Japan	0.47	-0.30	0.53	-0.19	1.43	-0.48	2.20	-0.36	
Germany	3.35	-0.41	3.21	-0.86	3.82	-1,47	4.68	-1 18	



	PO	JND		DOLLAR				
	at Sper	Cleanige	Yr Ago		at 5pm	Change	Yr Ago	
Dollar	1.6897	+0.58c	1.6451	Sterling	0.5918	-0.20p	0.6078	
D-Mark	2.7858	+1 <u>.24</u> pf	2.9743	D-Mark	1.6490	-0.03pt	1.7987	
Yen	194.49	+2.13	215.94	Yen	115.06	-¥-1.69	130.58	
£ index	100.40	0.00	103.70	S Index	104.80	0.00	108.30	

OTHER INDICATORS

	LIBSE	- CUE	at when		IIII-EA	<u> </u>	11 050	ment ing
rent Oil (5) 9.48	0.30	16.77	GDP	115,40	3.00	112.04	Dec
old (S)	291.65	0.90		RPI	164.50	3.10	159.55	Dec
liver (S)			5.78					
107								*at Spe

www.bloomberg.com/uk

Japan (yen)

Malaysia (ringgits)

SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

	URIS	T RATES	
	-		_
Australia (S)	2.6331	Mexican (nuevo peso)	15.26
Austria (schillings)	18.91	Netherlands (guilders)	3.0312
Belgium (francs)	55.56	New Zealand (5)	3.1061
Canada (\$)	2.5304	Norway (krone)	12.55
Cyprus (pounds)	0.7953	Portugal (escudos)	274. <u>68</u>
Denmark (krone)	10.31	Saudi Arabia (rials)	6.1464
Finland (markka)	8.2012	Singapore (5)	2.6509
France (francs)	9.0288	Spain (pesetas)	228,85
Germany (marks)	2.7032	South Africa (rands)	9.6882
Greece (drachma)	452,30	Sweden (krone)	13,18
	12.67	Switzerland (francs)	2.1755
Hong Kong (S)	1,0821	Thailand (bahts)	55.36
ireland (punts)	64.58	Turkey (lirasi)	495820
Indian (rupees)	6.4732	USA (\$)	1.6478
Israel (shekels)	2676		
aly (lira)	191.41	Rates for indication purpo	ses only
Fioan (ven)	131.41		•

6.1467

0.6110

Shell to cut \$2.5bn in costs and at least 4,000 more jobs

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

SHELL, the Anglo-Dutch oil giant, yesterday pledged to cut costs by \$2.5bn, shed nearly half of its chemicals business and examined the possibility of merging as part of a radical restructuring plan designed to restore its battered image with investors.

Mark Moody-Stuart, Shell's chairman, said the overhaul would result in an exceptional charge of \$4.5bn in the fourth quarter and at least another 4,000 job losses in addition to the 4,000 redundancies already announced from its worldwide workforce of 105,000.

But he said the impact on its UK workforce would be "limited" since it had already borne much of the pain with the 2,000 job losses and closure of its Shell Mex House headquarters earlier this year.

Details of the group's fivevear revival plan were spelt out to analysts and fund managers in London and New York during a 90-minute conference that began with a blunt admission from Mr Moody-Stuart that Shell's reputation with investors was "on the line".

The response from the markets was muted with one analyst declaring that Shell still had "an acute credibility gap" and the shares drifting slightly

Mr Moody Stuart said that Shell's management had 12 months to start delivering on the programme. "The world wil be able to see if we are making progress and if we aren't there will be consequences."

The Shell chairman said that the process of "clearing out the cupboard" would see eight of its 21 chemicals businesses equivalent to 40 per cent of the division - sold off, including half of its interest in Montell, the world's leading polypropylene producer

Shell is also selling off its in terest in the Altura upstream oil venture with Amoco in Texas and part of its Teias downstream gas assets in the US.

The group, which was overtaken as the world's biggest oil company by the Exxon-Mobil merger, said its target was to acheieve a 14 per cent return on capital by 2001.

The restructuring plan assumes that oil prices will re-





Mark Moody-Stuart, Shell's chairman, said the revamp would cost another 4,000 jobs worldwide but the UK impact would be 'limited'

OIL INDUSTRY UNDER PRESSURE **Brent Oil** Top ten global oil companies US\$ per barrel share price, bence measured by 1997 revenues 420 of PetroFi Texaco \$45.260 \$43.6ba Elf Aquitains \$37ъп 360 DJFMAMJJASOND

main at around \$10 a barrel for the next year and average \$14 a barrel over the next five

Mr Moody-Stuart said that at \$10 a barrel Shell remained "financially robust" even though its profits had fallen much more sharply than rival oil majors this year while return on capital is running at 9 per cent.

On the prospects of a merg-

er, Mr Moody-Stuart told investors: "We have looked at merger possibilities and will continue to look at such possibilities and, if the right oppor-

tunity arises, we will act. However, he said there were no "active discussions going on at the moment and Shell had no need to seek a partner, pointing out that its oil reserves, at 19 billion barrels, were only 2 billion barrels fewer than Exxon-

"Size isn't everything. To feel that someone has overtaken you gets the adrenalin going, added. Mr Moody-Stuart

The \$2.5bn cost reduction target compares with \$2.9bn of cost savings projected by Exxon-Mobil and the \$2bn of eff-

Emap poised for \$1bn

its merger with Amoco will

As part of the efficiency plan Shell has set itself the goal of reducing costs in its exploration and production division from \$3.3 a barrel at present to \$2.5 a barrel by 2001.

Mr Moody-Stuart said that Shell employed \$25bn more group, closed 2.5p lower at capital than Exxon and yet only earned the same return. That was why cost savings and more efficient use of capital was

Shell refused to be drawn on chemical businesses would raise but Mr Moody-Stuart con- company under a microscope. ceded that it was a "lousy" the cycle. The businesses being disposed of employed capital of about \$5bn.

The target for return on capital set by Shell means it will need to achieve an improveficiency gains that BP has said ment of 50 per cent on current

levels. The highest targets - of 15 per cent - have been set for exploration, production and chemicals.

The market's verdict on the restructuring plan unveiled by Shell was guarded. Shares in Shell Transport and Trading. the London-listed arm of the 351.5p.

John Toalster of SG Securities, said: "Basically they are downsizing the company and they still have an acute credibility gap. Given the cost reduction and the chemicals sale they are essentially putting the

"But a 14 per cent return on time to sell them because the \$14 oil is better than Exxon industry was at the bottom of achieves. A questionmark remains: is it achievable? We are hopeful but don't hold your breath.

Another analyst who declined to be named said: "It's not ideal but it is a betterpicture than it has been in the past."

Euro conversion weekend will 'run smoothly'

THE BANK OF ENGLAND and BY JOHN WILLCOCK the Financial Services Authority issued a joint declaration yesterday that the "conversion weekend" over the New Year for the introduction of the euro on 1 January "will run smoothly".

For the past three years the Bank has been preparing for the gigantic task of converting all the City's systems to cope with the single European currency. Yesterday it published the 10th edition of its quarterly

paper "Practical Issues Arising from the Introduction of the Euro", the last before the conversion date. The Bank declared that it

had been testing and trialling conversion of cash transfer systems such as Chaps and Target since the summer, and these trials had gone well.

But the Bank warned that some second-tier fund managers and stockbrokers have financial markets."

BLUE CHIPS recovered most of an

The stock market was ruffled by

early fall with Footsie ending 7.2

worries about the Far East and

another poor New York opening.

General Electric Co's bid to join

the European defence merger

talks left its shares down 18p at

changed at 501.25p. Railtrack

521p; British Aerospace was little

advanced 130p to 1,531p on hopes it

revamp of the London Underground.

will play a significant role in the

LONDON

points lower at 5,534.5.

failed to respond to the Bank's proposals for euro bank and custodian account details. The Issues paper includes the

availability of public transport and car parking in the City over the conversion weekend The Rotherhithe Tunnel will be closed, but "parking in the City will be free of charge, and single yellow lines not enforced". Practical Issues has a circulation of 42,000 and is available on the Internet at http://www.bankofengland.co.uk /pig.htm.

John Townend, the Bank of England's director for Europe, has steered the City's preparation for the Euro. He said yes terday: "Even though the UK is not joining the single currency at the outset, the euro will still be widely used across the City's

bid in first US deal EMAP, the publishing group

behind magazines such as FHM, Elle and Smash Hits, is poised to make its first move into the United States with a

deal worth more than \$1bn. Emap yesterday confirmed that it is in talks about making a recommended bid for The Petersen Companies, a Nasdaq-listed special-interest publisher whose magazine titles include Guns & Ammo, Hot Rod and Skin Diver. The acquisition would make Emap the world's leading magazine publishing

group. Shares in Petersen soared \$6.75 to \$30.25 on the news, valuing it at more than \$800m. The company is also carrying \$140m of long-term debt on its balance sheet.

Emap shares dropped 75p to 1050p on worries that the group was preparing a rights BY PETER THAL LARSEN

issue to help finance the acquisition. Analysts said the deal made strategic sense, although the price looked ex-Emap shares peaked at al-

most 1300p earlier this year, although they have since slipped back on worries that the economic slowdown would hit advertising revenues. Shares in Petersen have

risen steadily since it floated at a share price of \$17.50 in October 1997, although the company is not yet profitable. In the year to December 1997. of \$23.8m on revenues of Apart from its 80 magazine

titles, Petersen also produces television programmes and runs trade shows.

Kevin Hand, who took over

earlier this year, is keen to

expand the company into overseas markets. He recently shook up the group's management structure in order to concentrate on international expansion.

Emap has been highly successful in the UK market, but competition concerns mean that the company has limited room to grow in its main consumer publishing interests.

Ownership limits have prevented Emap from expanding its radio interests, which include the Kiss FM dance station. Earlier this year the group Petersen reported a net loss was forced to sell its Red Drag-of \$23.8m on revenues of on station in Cardiff when it bought Melody Radio from Hanson. As a result, the group has

been restricted to starting new titles such as Red, the women's magazine that was

as chief executive of Emap launched successfully earlier this year.

Emap has been exploring launching FHM, its highly successfully lad's magazine, in the US. Although several publishers have offered to publish the magazine on a franchise basis, Emap wants to retain editorial control. The company is also planning to launch Top Sante, its health title, in other markets.

Analysts said the worry was whether Emap's balance sheet could stretch to finance such a large deal. Mr Hand said recently that the company, which has debts of £150m, could afford to pay £600m for an acquisition. However, Emap's dependence on advertising revenues means it would be highly exposed if the economy

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

NEW YORK

STOCKS fell amid concerns that Congress will impeach US President Bill Clinton.

In early afternoon trading, the Dow Jones index had fallen by nearly 1 per cent to 8,760, while the Nasdaq had dropped 1.4 per cent to 2,000. Computer stocks led the declines, with shares in Microsoft, Intel and Yahoo! all losing more than 1 per cent.

Analysts said the choppy activity was likely to increase over the week as the vote on the impeachment draws nearer.

3 TOKYO

THE NIKKEI INDEX shed 2 per cent, to close at 14,110, as the Bank of Japan's key quarterly "tankan" business survey triggered worries about Japan's business outlook.

News that the Japanese government is to nationalise the troubled Nippon Credit Bank also weighed on sentiment. The losses were led by banks, as investors fear that more ailing lenders may fail. Industrial Bank, the last of the long-term credit banks, slid 5.5 per cent, while Yasuda Trust, a trust bank, slumped by 7 per cent.

HONG KONG

SHARES continued to struggle on concerns that the economy, which is going through its worst recession in 20 years, will slump even further.

By the close of trading, the benchmark Hang Seng index had failen 1.3 per cent to 9,825. Hong Kong Telecommunications, the city's biggest phone company. fell nearly 3 per cent after the resignation of its chairman. Sun Hung Kai Properties, the city's largest developer, dropped 1.5 per cent.

FRANKFURT

GERMAN STOCKS pared early losses to rise for the first time in seven days, with many investors believing that the readjustment of the past week had been overdone. By the close of trading, the benchmark DAX Index had gained 0.5 per cent to 4.563.

Viag. Germany's third-largest utility, gained more than 3 per cent on speculation that it might acquire a stake in Energie Baden-Wuerttembourg, the utility company based in the South-west of the country.

Derek Pain, page 17

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The hunt for corporate superman



Dick Brown: shock departure highlights the lengthening list of chief executive vacancies



Jim Fifield: EMI's non-executives vetoed the high-earning American's appointment



Martin Taylor: boardroom interference was a factor in his decision to leave Barclays



profit fall led to his departure from Rank

As the pressure for value intensifies, is too much being asked of the people at the top? THE SHOCK departure of Dick Brown, Cable & Wireless chief executive, highlights an alarming gap at the top of UK plc.

Even before the announcement last week that Mr Brown was leaving to become chairman and chief executive of EDS, the Texas-based information technology company, headhunters were working overtime to fill a rare spate of chief executive vacancies. Barclays Bank, leisure group Rank, entertainment company EMI and the Anglo-Dutch publisher Reed-Elsevier are all - for a variety of reasons - also looking for chief executives.

Is this glut of openings just a coincidence? Or is it symptomatic of a shift in the way our biggest companies are run? Observers are divided. Elis-

abeth Marx, a director of executive search consultancy Norman Broadbent International, maintains it is fairly normal for there to be a number of vacancies at this level, not least

ing the right person for an in- an insistence on a broad range creasingly demanding job. "They are special people. There's only a small number to choose from," she says - a ref-

erence to the belief that today's chief exec must be a superhuman combination of master strategist, inspirational leader and powerful communicator. Business schools are supposedly putting great effort into developing such skills, but the pool shows little sign of growing. This means that their scarcity value must be reflect-

ed in their pay. Research by Monks Partnership, the remuneration specialists, reveals that last year 20 company directors enjoyed earnings of more than £1m. As one consultant says, the pressure members of this "elite group" are under is compensated for by the fact that "if you succeed you do extremely well".

Many now detect a conspir-

of skills and a conviction that growing internationalisation requires expertise typ: ally sed by already his llypaid US executives such as Mr Brown. There is always an exception to prove the rule, and Sir Colin Southgate, the EMI chairman, failed in his bid to install Jim Fifield, the high-earning American who headed EMI

Music as chief executive, when

the company's non-executive

directors objected. Nevertheless the headhunters and chief executives gain from the view that the solutions lie in other companies or even sectors rather than within - as with football clubs, where whenever a managerial vacancy arises the same list of candidates is circulated.

This is partly a development of the old British "gifted amateur" approach so prevalent in the Civil Service and elsewhere. But it also owes something to the conviction that the posts at a younger age and modern business needs visionaries who are not blinkered by working for one organisation.

News Analysis: Headhunters are struggling to fill a growing list of chief executive vacancies.

But, as Dr Marx points out, the chief executives of the most admired companies are more likely to stay with their companies, and to have the lovalty they regard as so vital in emyees. Such companies tend to go in for well-managed succession planning, so that even if there is a shock departure, someone else can be eased in. Companies that appear rudderless when a chief executive leaves only reinforce the notion that they are run by single allknowing god-like figures.

tives are staying in position for less time than they used to. Research in the US shows that the tenure of chief executives is getting shorter, and anecdotal evidence suggests the same is true in Britain. This is partly be-

Nevertheless, chief execu-

so are more inclined to move on. But it is also connected with a sea change in the length of time institutions allow executives to produce the goods.

Pressure from institutional shareholders is rising. Phillips & Drew, the fund management arm of UBS, was instrumental in the departure from retailer Sears of chief executive Liam Strong and has pressed for the break-up of the group. It has offered its views on various mergers, including the proposed link between BTR and Siebe. Shareholder pressure was behind the departure in October of Andrew Teare from Rank. He was credited with focusing the company, but a profit fall of 20 per cent was enough to seal his fate.

Jerzy Wielechowski, P&D's head of corporate governance, said last week: "The timescale has shortened as the fund management industry has become

group, revealed the full impact

of the Asian crisis on the

diamond market yesterday

when it said sales of uncut di-

amonds had plunged by 28

A key tool in the activism shown by P&D and other fund managers has been "shareholder value", derived from the Economic Value Added concept developed by consultancy Stern Stewart. Philips, the elec-

effort to return to past glories. But if the pressure to perform can be particularly acute in struggling organisations, it is never absent from successful ones. The modern business climate is so unforgiving that today's success can be tomorrow's business school case

tronics group, Kodak, the pho-

tographic company, and glass

maker Pilkington are among

the most notable organisations

that passed the baton from one

chief executive to another in an

And many in the City of London and beyond believe this is deterring some talented individuals from putting themselves forward. Put simply,

study in complacency.

highly competent people not prepared to put themselves forward for such positions. This might be due to a con-

be huge, there will be some

cern to have a fuller, more balanced life, but it is also down to a growing realisation that achieving turnarounds is difficult, and not solely dependent upon the abilities of the individual assuming the chief executive role. It is thought this is why De La Rue took so long to find a new chief. More emphasis is now put on

the balance of boards. Although many chief executives crave the absolute power of their counterparts in the United States. there is also a growing belief in the need for other directors to share the responsibilities, simply because no one person can have all the required skills.

This is a tricky area; board interference is thought to have been an important factor in Martin Taylor's decision to leave Barclays. But unless companies find a way of negotiating round it, that list of vacancies will get longer.

IN BRIEF

Windfall shares ao begging

UP TO 60,000 UK policyholders have failed to claim windfall shares worth an average of £900 each since the flotation of Colonial, the Australian insurer, in July last year. Colonial yesterday said shares worth a total of £55m were still waiting to be claimed. Customers, who must claim the windfalls before May 2002, can contact Colonial on 01634 848134.

Heathrow blow

BAA is abandoning its plans to build a third runway at London-Heathrow after Roy Vandermeer QC, the inquiry inspector considering BAA's plans to build a fifth terminal at Heathrow, told the airports operator he is considering imposing a condition of no new runway. BAA will accept that in its submission to the inquiry in the new year.

BAA's reported strong November traffic: it handled 8.1 million passengers at its UK airports, 7.1 per cent more than November 1997.

Japan at a low

JAPAN'S business leaders believe conditions are worse than they have been for fourand-a-half years, according to(🕼 the quarterly Tankan survey. This showed that 51 per cent believed conditions were worse than before. However, 48 per cent believed the position would improve by March, ahead of Japan's fiscal reform package

Wates mulis bid

WATES CITY, a small property company, "studying its options" after the collapse of merger talks with Greycoat. Wates, which has 2 per cent of Greycoat, was considering whether to mount a hostile bid for its rival.

Esprit listing

ESPRIT, the Hong Kongbased fashion retailer, is seeking a secondary market listing in London and looking for a joint venture partner to open stores in the UK. Last year the company recorded pre-tax profits of HK\$346m on sales of HK\$5bn.

announcement

THE LATEST TRANCHE of share sales by the Japanese government in NTT, the telecoms group, has been priced at Y855,000, a 3 per cent discount to the NTT closing price. The offering of 1 million shares, valued at three times subscribed. The sale cut the government's holding in NTT from 65 per cent to 59.2 per cent.

Taik opts out

TALK RADIO will not take 🚛 cent stake in Digital One, the UK's only commercial digital radio group, chief executive yesterday. Talk stills plans to broadcast its all-talk station over Digital One, he said.

because of the difficulty of findacy to ratchet up pay through cause managers are rising to more active. even though the rewards may

Merck could upset AstraZeneca deal Diamond sales plummet

giant to be formed from the merger of Zeneca and the Swedish group Astra, could be forced to give up a large chunk of its profits to its US rival Merck, it emerged yesterday.

Under a distribution deal between Astra and Merck, the Anglo-Swedish group could lose a sizeable portion of its earnings in the US, the world's largest and fastest-growing pharmaceutical market, for the next 12 vears.

News of the payment is a ture in 2008.

blow for Astra and Zeneca and comes less than a week after they announced plans to merge to form the world's third largest drug company.

The Astra-Merck deal dates back to 1982, when the two companies formed a joint venture to market the Swedish company's drugs in the US.

The deal was renegotiated in July this year, when Astra won the right to buy out Merck's share of the joint ven-

Astra was to merge with a rival, it would have to pay Merck compensation of around \$5bn over the next 10 vears.

However, according to the small print of the contract, Merck can refuse to be bought out and can continue to receive the stream of royalties from the sale of Astra's drugs in the

> At present, Merck receives around 30 per cent of the joint venture's sales, estimated at around \$1.5bn

ire clubs with swimming pools at most hotels

cides to retain the joint venture, AstraZeneca would be forced to pay the royalties on all US sales of Astra drugs until 2010, the first date in which the joint venture can be terminated by the Swedes.

that the company had not decided on whether to accept compensation or to carry on with the joint venture.

A spokeswornan for Zeneca said: "We have no cause of

ment.

A Merck spokeswoman said

Sales of rough diamonds at De Beers, which has a 70 per cent share of the world market, collapsed to \$3.345bn (£2bn) from \$4.640bn as demand

slumped in the Far East. The sales figures were the worst since 1987, prompting concern over this agreefears that De Beers would be forced to slash its dividend for

per cent in 1998.

the full year by up to 30 per cent next March.

that sales were holding up well in the United States and Europe, but this was too little to offset the lower sales in Japan, where demand for diamonds had crashed 20 per cent from 1997, and Hong Kong, where imports of polished stones fell by 40 per cent.

The Central Selling Organisation, the marketing arm of De Beers, has been stockpiling uncut gems in an effort to

key market - the US - were fail-However, the company said ing to respond. One analyst said De Beers could end up with a stockpile of rough diamonds

worth around \$5bn. Mark Cockle, editor of the independent trade magazine Diamond International, said: "These are the worst results for a decade: De Beers is hurting and the industry is hurting. The pressure will now be on the De

hard choices.

Beers directors to make some

price for polished stones.

But analysts said prices in the

A division of Forte Hotels

the option to buy a 10 per Kelvin MacKenzie said and a new sports service



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SHELL YESTERDAY rose to the challenge of its City critics and announced an ambitious new return on capital target which, at 14 per cent, is more than 50 per cent higher than that presently achieved.

Subject, that is, but not limited to, price fluctuations, actual demand. currency fluctuations, drilling and production results, reserve estimates, loss of market, industry competition, environmental risks, physical risks, legislative, fiscal and regulatory developments, economic and financial market conditions in various countries and regions, political risks, project delay or advancement'

Phew! Might it not have been simpler to say "this is not a forecast"? There were so many caveats and letouts in yesterday's statement that it is no wonder the City felt a little uncertain about Shell's commitment to its new goals. But let's be charitable and assume this all to be the usual legalistic mumbo jumbo. Has Mark Moody Stuart, Shell's chairman, done enough to keep the

By Shell's recent standards, the new target of a 14 per cent return on capital employed by the year after next is positively heroic, even though



OUTLOOK

it doesn't compare favourably with the 17 per cent recorded by BP and Exxon last year. Shell is being perhaps a little optimistic in assuming a \$14-per-barrel oil price, given that at present the price is below \$10 a barrel. But to be fair, hardly anyone in the industry is banking on it remaining at this depressed level; this is a business where things can change rapidly. That, in any case, is what the industry is hoping for.

What of the rest of this package? Given the starting point, projected cost cuts of \$2.5bn per annum do not look particularly impressive set alongside the \$2bn BP has promised from its merger with Amoco and the \$2.9bn expected from the

Exxon/Mobil merger. Don't forget that Shell will still be larger than BP even after BP has merged with Amoco, so it ought to be doing better than this. BP will certainly better its promises, and so will Exxon. All of which suggests that the game will continue to move ahead of Shell. BP and Exxon will be drawing away as fast as Shell tries to catch up.

Shell has some terrific assets, but they have not been managed terri- a US electricity business. bly well. It is a cliche to refer to the continuing problem of the company's national and other fieldoms, but until someone tackles them, it is not clear that Shell is capable of sustained progress.

A persistence of the low oil price might eventually deliver the required shock to the system, and prompt more radical action. But it may well be that Shell needs an American-style chief executive, with sweeping semi-autocratic powers, to bring about the required level of change. Shell's statement vesterday does little to address the central problem of the group's collegiate style of management.

Mr Moody Stuart may have gone as far as he can given the constraints under which he operates, but it all looks too reactive to do the trick.

National Grid

WHEN THE first lemming leaps over the cliff edge it starts a trend but, as subsequent lemmings soon discover, it is not one that is worth following. Yesterday, National Grid followed the example of Scottish Power by stepping off terra firma and forking out a fancy premium for

Not surprisingly, the Grid is keen to distance its takeover of New England Electric Supply from the frosty reception given to ScottishPower's acquisition of PacifiCorp.

The blurb accompanying the deal waxes lyrical about the "excellent chemistry" between the respective managements and the "exciting prospects" that await the Grid in New England. Close your eyes and you could momentarily forget it is shelling out £2.7bn for a dull old, low growth electricity transmission and distribution business, albeit one that supplies the wellheeled folk who live off Cape Cod.

The PacifiCorp deal did not have much to commend it but at least the Scots have bought a business which, as the estate agents would structive. The Grid was called Pilsay, has room for improvement. grim and NEES was the Mavflower.

\$200m a year off PacifiCorp's cost base and still not bump up against the ceiling of its regulatory rate of

In the case of NEES, however, efficient US utilities, which presumably means there is not much fat left to trim. Of course, there will still be cost savings to be had. The Grid was being coy about the precise scope yesterday for fear of giving the regulators an early sight of the target they have to aim at.

The Grid maintains NEES is a steal because it is in the vanguard of the move away from rate of return (profit capping) regulation to incentive-based regulation. This will allow retention of the efficiency savings for shareholders, rather than handing them back to customers, the Grid reckons.

But if the US regulators have learned anything from the British experience of this form of regulation, it is that the hurdles can safely be set very high before the pain becomes too much.

The codenames used to disguise the identities in this deal are in-

ScottishPower reckons it can shave The founding fathers endured some harsh winters after landing in the New World. This deal, coupled with the Grid's determination to blow the proceeds of its Energis stake on further overseas utility acquisitions, the Grid is buying one of the more may tempt some shareholders to

Bids for Sears

ARE WE approaching the final denovement in the tangled affairs of Sears, Britain's perennial retail under-achiever? Phillip Green, Bankers Trust, an unnamed American venture capital group, Uncle Tom Cobliegh and all are reported to be sniffing around, so surely someone can be relied upon to do the decent thing and put the beleaguered stores company out of its

misery: Sears is certainly braced for a bid and there seem to be plenty of people lurking in the shadows waiting to pounce. But so far this has been more of a virtual bid situation - a takeover conducted by planted leak and innuendo - rather than the real thing. Nobody has yet put a proper bid on the table, less still formaily announced one.

Despite this, the share price has been on the up and up since the story first developed legs. Shouldn't the Takeover Panel now intervene and ask the Stock Exchange to suspend share dealings until the bidders' real intentions become clearer? Unfortunately, share suspension is a double-edged sword; it prevents shareholders getting out, as well as gullible investors from going in.

Even so, a resolution is urgently required. Sears plainly expects Mr Green to make his move any day now. If he does manage to muster the money it will be interesting to see how institutional shareholders

Mr Green has proved himself an excellent deal-maker, but each time he has bought from Sears, he has also royally legged the company over. Whatever Mr Green offers, Sears is certainly worth a lot more.

All the same, almost anything would be better than nothing, so dire has been the performance of the Sears share price. Phillips & Drew. Sears' largest shareholder, was hedging its bets yesterday by offloading some of its stake. This demonstrates the urgency of the situation. Mr Green and others should

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National Grid in US buying spree

NATIONAL GRID yesterday joined the takeover trail in the United States, paying £2.7bn for a New England-based electricity company and indicating that it planned further US ac-

> The deal follows last week's \$7bn takeover of PacifiCorp by ottish Power and is likely to followed by further bolt-on acquisitions by National Grid worth up to £500m.

National Grid, the operator of the UK's high-voltage electricity transmission network. is paying £1.9bn cash for New England Electric System (NEES) - a 25 per cent premi-

£250,000+

£100,000-249,999

£25,000-99,999

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

um to last Friday's closing price - and assuming a further £800m of debt. Nees has 1.3 million customers in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire and operates both the transmission grid and distribution system in the region.

There is a poison pill clause in the agreement requiring either party to pay the other a \$100m penalty fee if they withdraw from the deal, which is expected to receive final regulatory clearance in early

David Jones, National Grid's tirely from borrowings, would be

Change to Interest Rates.

With effect from the start of business on 15th December 1998 the following Business

GROSS %**

Business Investment Account - paid monthly

30 day notice account

5.48

5.22

5.40

5.35

5.10

4.60

5.01

4.96

4.70

4.18

but would not be drawn on how a goodwill write-off of £1bn. much it hoped to save or what the impact would be on the 3,200-strong workforce.

Since National Grid was priworkforce - reducing the headcount by nearly 3,000 - and slashed costs by £220m.

But NEES is regarded as one of the more efficient US utilities, ranking 26th in the league table of 150 electricity suppliers based on costs per customer.

National Grid said that the deal, which is being financed en-

GROSS % NET %

3.92

3.88

3.28

10.44

9.36

4.90

4.85

4.10

chief executive, said there was earnings enhancing from day X style formula, as soon as 2000. scope for cost-cutting at Nees one before taking into account

By year three it would be earnings enhancing after amortisation of goodwill of about £50m a year. NEES is profit vatised in 1990, it has halved its capped like other US utilities and is allowed to earn a return on equity of 11 per cent in its distribution business and 10.25 per cent in transmission.

But the North-east region of the US is in the vanguard of moves towards incentive-based regulation, which would allow National Grid to retain more of stations, three of which are opthe efficiency savings it achieves. At present, any prof-

its NEES earns above and beyond its permitted rate of return are shared evenly between customers and shareholders. Mr Jones said that NEES should move to an incentive-

to dispose of its £2.7bn stake in based regulatory system, the telecoms operator Energis where prices rather than profits are capped through an RPI-

remained unchanged.

Rick Sergel, chief executive

of NEES, will remain in that role

and will make around \$920,000

from his stake in the company.

National Grid will send two se-

nior directors over to New Eng-

land to help run the business

and push through the cost-cut-

NEES recently sold its gen-

eration division - consisting of

4,000 megawatts of power plant

- to Pacific Gas and Electric for

\$1.6bn. It still has minority

stakes in six nuclear power

erating. But Mr Sergel said the

liabilities relating to these sta-

tions were largely covered

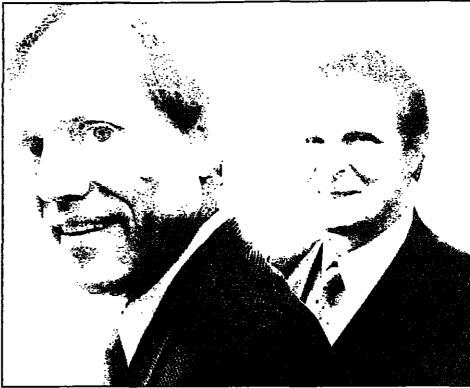
under its regulatory formula. At

worst, Nees' exposure was in

National Grid said the plan

the order of \$6m-\$7m.

ting measures.



Rick Sergel (left), chief executive officer of Nees, and David Jones, chief executive Outlook, page 15 officer of National Grid, after agreeing the takeover yesterday

Record drop in factory

BY ANDREW VERITY

prices

A RECORD fall in prices at the factory gate triggered fresh economic gloom yesterday, raising pressure on the Monetary Policy Committee to cut interest rates again next month.

Core output prices for man-ufactured goods fell by 0.5 per cent in the year to November, the biggest drop since records began in 1958.

Economists said the figures showed there was little inflationary pressure at the start of the chain and underlined the risk of deflation in manufacturing.

"Given the inflation and output data we have seen, I would not be surprised to see at least a 50 basis point cut in January." said James Stewart, economist at Weavering Capital. Jonathan Loynes, UK econ-

omist at HSBC Group, said: "You are seeing deflation working its way along the inflation pipeline. I suspect you will soon see inflation at the retail level falling as well." Manufacturers paid 8.5 per cent less for raw materials

than a year earlier, largely due to the collapse in oil prices. Crude oil, which fell in price by 9 per cent in November, costs 41 per cent less than a year ago. Some economists said the fall in prices was worrying for

manufacturers, who were struggling to stay competitive amid a falling orders. Many are increasingly forced to rely on cheap raw materials to maintain their margins. The price data brought market jitters, with the FTSE 100

covered to close at 5,534.5, down 7.2 points on the day. Separate figures, however, showed record levels of inward investment. Foreign firms stepped up new direct investment by a record £21.8bn last year, up £6.1bn on 1996 and the

biggest rise ever, according to the Office for National Statistics.

initially falling 74 points. It re-

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US Tiger fund takes a bite of WPP

one of the more active Footsie constituents as Tiger Management, the famed American bedge fund, emerged as a 3.91 per cent shareholder.

The US group, where Baroness Thatcher is a consultant, has taken an active interest in London shares this year. It determinedly built a 12.15 per cent stake in the Next fashion chain but when the one-time highflyer failed to recover, it trimmed its holding to 10.99 per cent.

It could see WPP headed by high earner Martin Sorrell, as a recovery play. The big advertising group fell to 202p in the October blood bath; in the summer it was 467p. Goldman Sachs believes the shares, up 10.75p to 323.75p, should go to 400p.

The Tiger pounce helped enliven a downbeat session with, in moderate trading, Footsie falling 7.2 points to 5,534.5. It was at one time down change's new Volume-Weighted Avdetermine closing order book prices. policy. In the past the final price has been based on the last order book trade.

MARKET REPORT



PAIN

were adjusted with, for example, Prudential Corporation being accorded an 847p close against an order book price of 849.5p and Vodafone 903p against 908p.

Despite late programme trades and some bed and breakfast exercises the usual festive lethargy was 73.3. For the first time the Stock Ex- evident and this year there is the added excuse of the euro's arrival erage Price calculation was used to for institutions to adopt a no play

The stock market is taking the new currency's debut so seriously Under the new system a few prices that for the first time in living mem-

Year's Eve and open for only half a day on 30 December. Supporting shares had another depressing session with the mid cap index off 30.4 to 4,706.5 and the small cap 4.8 to

Richard Jeffrey at Charterhouse Tilney points out that small cap shares have under performed by 40 per cent in the past two years. "Seldom has a fall from grace been so spectacular," he said. "The combination of economic slowdown and deteriorating profit margins makes it likely that investors will continue to shun small cap stocks in the early months of 1999.

Still the lot of under card shares could start to improve around the middle of next year, prompted by "escalating corporate activity as larger companies also seek to exploit the lowly ratings of their smaller brethren". First Choice Holidays, a mid cap

constituent, was one to buck the trend, gaining 1.5p to 101p. Year's results are due today. Helped by acquisitions, profits are expected to

soar from £15.4m to £48m. Railtrack, after being shunted

regulatory strictures. rebounded, gaining 130p to 1,5311 with WestLB Panmure among those advocating buying the shares.

The advance was helped by sug-

LITTLE Oxford Biomedica rose 2.25p to 12p, reflecting a gene therapy licensing link with the giant Rhone-Poulenc Rorer. Dr Stephen Osborne at stockbroker Beeson Gregory

calculates the value of the deal, including royalty payments, is at least 30p a share and could be as high as 87p. However, losses will continue; be forecasts £3.7m this year and £3.1m next. The shares, recently down to 8p. brushed

gestions that the group could play a significant role in the revamp of the London Underground

60p two years ago.

But Pearson, the banking and media group, was weak, falling 33p to 1.062p on worries about a trading statement, due today. The market is

SHARE SPOTLIGHT share price, pence FIRST CHOICE HOLIDAYS 110-100 -

braced for a cautious tone and profit downgradings are expected to follow. The market's expectations are currently around 5348m. Last year's figure was £128.6m.

DIFMAMJIASOND

Shell's restructuring left the shares 3.5p lower at 350.5p but Southern Electric brightened 30p to 665p as Scottish Hydro-Electric's takeover obtained regulatory approval and with 79.1 per cent support

tric Co's late bid to join the European defence merger talks left its shares 18p off at 521p. The market felt its last minute arrival would mean it would be forced to negoti-

FARLAKE, the reshaped fund manager, should make further headway this year with stockbroker Teather & Greenwood shooting for profits of nearly £1.2m against £805,000. Next year's forecast from analyst Martin Cross is £1.25m. The company has

£380m under management split between PEPs, pension plans and private client portfolios. The shares held at 325p, just below their year's high. In 1996 they were up to a 475p peak.

ate from a position of weakness British Aerospace, little changed at 501.75p. is believed to be near to clinching a deal with Germany's

DaimlerChrysler Aerospace. Emap fell 74p to 1,050p. The publisher confirmed it may buy a US

went unconditional General Elec- magazine group; the rumoured price is £655m.

National Grid, splashing out £1.9bn on a US electricity group and looking for more overseas deals, fell 10.5p to 488p.

A profits warning cut into PIC International, the remnants of the old Dalgety food group. The pig breed-

er's shares plunged 23.5p to 73p. MFI fell 3p to 26p on worries it will slump into losses today and little Cadora, the Capolito Roma retailer, tell 0.25p to 1p following losses and signals more cash may be need-

Greycoat hardened 6p to 162.5p after admitting to unfruitful merger talks with Wates City of London Properties. Wates, off 1p at 73p, has 2.1 per cent of Greycoat.

Servisair, the airline support group, rose 9p to 125p after it said it had received approaches but was not currently involved in any talks.

Newcastle Utd. said to be putting together a £50m cash-raising exercise in New York, gained 9p to 105p.

SEAQ VOLUME: 792.5m SEAQ TRADES: 61.433 GILT INDEX: 114.95 +0.61

Investment: Troubled pub and hotel group plans shake-up as beer sales collapse

Vaux adds to drinks sector gloom as Logica buys

VAUX, the troubled pub and hotels 🗢 group, yesterday added to the gloom surrounding the drinks sector when it unveiled a collapse in beer sales

and warned of tough times ahead. The company, which is selling its two breweries and half of its pubs to focus on its Swallow Hotels chain, said that pub revenues in the first

weeks of the new financial year were 8.1 per cent below 1997. Vaux said it would change its name to Swallow Group once the disposals were completed and announced the departure of chairman Sir Paul Nicholson after 33 years.

Martin Grant, the chief executive, said that the pub division had suffered from its heavy exposure to the recession-hit North-east. "There isn't an awful lot of consumer confidence out there," he said.

Mr Grant, who was poached from Allied Domecq in May to shake-up the inderperforming group, said the publinarket was set to remain "chalenging" throughout 1999.

However, he said that the company's four-star Swallow Hotels continued to perform strongly and that margins houses. bookings into 1999 were "buoyant".

By Francesco Guerrera

His comments came as Vaux reported an 8 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £40.1m before a £25.7m exceptional charge on the brewing and pub disposals. Turnover fell 3 per cent to £283.2m. The shares rose 8p to 245.5p.

The results highlighted the stark contrast between Vaux's hotels and driver behind the profit growth. with operating profit climbing 12.9 per cent. Pubs fared much worse. with profits in tenanted houses sliding 1 per cent and managed houses posting a modest increase.

City analysts said the results and the current state of the market vindicated Mr Grant's decision to exit brewing and sharply reduce Vaux's pub estate. The disposal of the tenanted houses would help to reduce costs and remove a drag on the group's profits.

Industry experts said that in the rapidly consolidating pub market,

performing Sunderland and Rochdale breweries, which produce Vaux and Lambton's ales, would improve margins in the division as the remaining 300 houses would be able

They said that the disposals, which are expected to fetch £70m-£100m, would enable Vaux to add to its 36 Swallow Hotels and to return cash to shareholders.

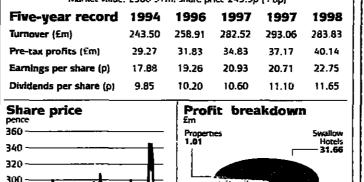
to buy beer in the open market.

Nigel Popham at Teather and Greenwood said that the shares are worth buying, as they trade on just 10 times 1999 expected earnings of £44m.

"First of all, the long-term outlook for hotels is bullish. Secondly, Vaux is driven by strong management and thirdly, they are getting out of breweries and pubs," he said. Ben Maitland, an analyst with bro-

ker Sutherlands, said that the group's shake-up would make it more attractive to a suitor, such as the brewing giant Whitbread or the hotel operator Stakis.

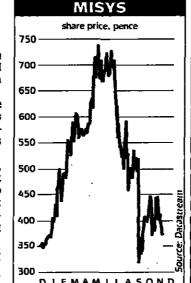
pubs it will be a very attractive pack- ruary. Similarly, the sale of the poorly age for one of its rivals," he said.



VAUX GROUP: AT A GLANCE

Mr Grant said that he expected mura, Enterprise Inns and a man-"The upside to Vaux' shares is to announce a buyer for the brew-Vaux had to divest its low-return, low that once it sells breweries and eries and pubs by January or Feb-

Nicholson, the outgoing chairman's brother, are thought to be in the run-



Misys pounces to capture C-ATS Software

MISYS, the software group, returned BY PETER THAL LARSEN to the acquisition trail yesterday witer is jounced on C-ATS Software, a US operator specialising in risk management products for banks,

with a \$60m (£36m) cash bid. The deal was welcomed by analysts as a sign that the UK's largest of their exposure so they can deploy

said the addition of C-ATS's products portion of banks' IT spending. allowed the company to offer a complete range of risk management systems to banks. "Our customers of the shares, have accepted Misys's don't want single products. They bid, making it unlikely that another need an integrated solution," he predator will come along. said adding that Misvs offered C-ATS

Capital Management, the hedge fund, and other débacles have highlighted the need for banks to keep a close eye on risks. But they are also under pressure to balance the risk Kevin Lomax, Misys chairman, ages will take up an ever-larger pro-

The management of Nasdaq-listed C-ATS, which controls 23 per cent

However, experts said Misys was

ported a pre-tax loss of \$2.6m on revenues of \$18.5m. Its growth in recent years has been patchy. "It's a good strategic acquisition, but they're certainly not underpaying," said Roger

Phillips at investment bank Granville. Although encouraged by the resumption of deals, observers remain software group is strengthening its their capital more efficiently. Misys divided on Misys's prospects. After grip on the banking software market. believes risk management pack- a storming run which propelled the company into the FTSE 100 in the spring, Misys shares have slumped on fears that banks would cut spending on IT. The shares, ejected from the FTSE last week, yesterday dropped a further 9p to 371p.

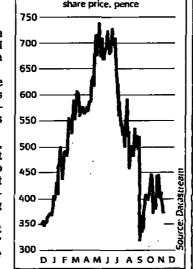
The main worry is about Medic. the supplier of software for the US ar Jernational distribution channel. not gaining its target cheaply. In the healthcare industry, which Misys Trie near-collapse of Long-Term year to last December C-ATS re-

cerned that the division, which is a departure from Misys's traditional business, has sluggish growth prospects.

Meanwhile, competitors in the software industry criticise Misys for skimping on development spending and not developing a services business.

However, others argue that, based on the company's current growth prospects, the shares are too cheap. Phill Davies, an analyst at stockbrokers Capel Cure Sharp, expects profits of £123m in the coming year, rising to £156m in 2000.

"They are getting 20 per cent growth across all their divisions," says Mr Davies. "At these levels we would be buyers of the shares."



COMPANY DECLIETS

CUMPANT RESULTS													
Name	Turnover (£)	Pre-tax (£)	EPS	Dividend	Pay day	X-div	Name	Turnover (£)	Pre-tax (£)	EPS	Dividend	Pay day	X-div
API Group (F) Cadoro (f) Drack Holdings (f) Europewer (f) Fountial Forward Holdings (F) Hardy's A Hambers (F) Hoosycouche Lessare (f) Jacques Vert (f) Runick (F)	163.678m [143.819m] 9 697m (11.611m) 32 92m (28 68m) 15 51m (20 68m) 32 447m (21.778m) 36 325m (35 721m) 5 392m (4 813m) 13 94m (19 471m) 136 375m (131 166m)	15 665m (13 981m) 1 534m (-0 602m) 5.16m (-1 17m) 9.750m (1 203m) 1 (65m (1 955m) 7 785m (8 481m) 0 863m (0 656m) 0.318m (-2 434m) 3 691m (10 424m)	36.67p (35.56p) -0.68p (-0.44p) 6.04p (4.03p) 0.64p (0.89p) 8.32p (7.90p) 21.03p (23.07p) 4.0p (3.6p) 1.0p (-18.1p) -0.44p (1.94p)	13 3p (12.1p) - (-) 0.65p (0.58p) 0.31p (0.31p) 1 90p (1.63p) 7 6p (7.2p) - (-) - (-) 0.93p (-)	08 02 99 15 02 99 07 04 99 07 03 99 07 03 99	04.01.99 	Mointedeme Group (1) 1952 (1) 1959 (1) 1959 (1) Skieled Diagnostics Group (1) Vens Group (7) Venterfall Holdings (7) Wychold Group (7) (F) - Final (1) - Interior	1.257m (0.098m) 5.374m (0.135m) 7.3 1m (7.1 1m) 3.6 1m (3.455m) 263 B3m (275.45m) 19m (12.9m) 12.257m (16.033m)	0 192m (-0.068m) 0 460m (0.070m) 4 1m (3 9m) 0 860m (0.271m) 14 418m (37 170m) 2 61m (1.59m) -3.256m (0.494m)	-4 2p (2 7p) 4 (p (-2 4p) 5.9p (5.6p) -3.94p (1 29p) 6 0p (22.56p) 5.34p (-) -12.4p(1 4p)	- (-1 - (-) 2 2p (2 2p) - 1-7 11 65p (11 10p) 0 25p (-) - (-)	- 05 02 99 06 04.99 09 04 99	- 94 01 99 - 29 12 98 22 02 99

Surprise winner a Czech mate

WHEN LOGICA bought a small software company in the Czech Republic last week, little did the management realise that they were also buying the latest winner of the Czech Derby.

A bemused Dr Martin Read, chief executive, and his fellow Logica directors are still trying to work out precisely how the acquisition of an information technology company called FCC Folprecht for £3.6m brought with it ownership of one Blue Ridge Dancer. The racehorse is apparently "one of the best twoyear-olds in the country," according to a Logica source vesterday.

The deal could be a bargain. The horse's career winnings already amount to 4m Czech kroner, or

Obviously, as a former GEC employee, Mr Read is on his way to emulating Lord Weinstock as a agement buyout team led by Frank | fancier of fine bloodstock. The Logica Handicap, anyone?

> SENSITIVE CITY deals usually require the use of code names, and National Grid's £2.4bn acquisition of New England Electric System (NEES) was no exception. The Grid achusetts-based electricity company was dubbed "Mayflower".

Sadly, NEES doesn't appear to didn't stop the head Pilgrim Father himself, National Grid chief execu- at the group's hotels. tive David Jones, being in fine form yesterday.

doors of the lift containing Mr Jones and his fellow directors at the London Underwriting Centre in Mincing Lane became stuck. To the awestruck admiration of his peers, Mr Jones - whose background is in engineering, immediately dropped to the floor, tinkered with the door mechanism - and hey presto, they were free.

Perhaps the moral is that we need more engineering skills in the which will include spyholes in every Square Mile. Or at least more lifts room door and an iron in every room.

team at Drescher Kleinwort Benson. tral territory on the table. Mr Lloyd, who worked for IBM before entering the City, is currently on Newcastle Brown.

PEOPLE AND BUSINESS By John WILLCOCK

a spot of gardening leave and will start at DKB on 5 January.

A SPIN DOCTOR who stood as the Tory candidate for Berwick-upon-Tweed in last year's General Election is to be the first chief executive of Business for Sterling, the ginger group set up to campaign against Britain embracing the euro.

Nick Herbert is leaving Bell Pottinger Communications to join Lord Marsh. chairman of the pressure group, at its offices in Buckingham Gate, London. Mr Herbert is also a former director of political affairs at the British Field Sports Society.

MARTIN GRANT's revolution at Vaux Group, where he was recently appointed chief executive, is gathbecame "Pilgrim", while the Mass- ering pace. As Sir Paul Nicholson announced his retirement as chairman of the pubs and hotels group yesterday after 33 years with the forown any racehorses. However, that mer family company, Mr Grant heralded a new "woman-friendly" era

Sir Paul attended the analysts' meeting covering Vaux's results In a tense incident in the City, the yesterday, but left before the journalists arrived. Mr Martin confirmed however that Sir Paul fully backed Mr Martin's strategy of selling off Vaux's two breweries and 350 tenanted pubs in the North-east.

Out go the men in cloth caps supping ale, in come professional women customers. The company has concocted a "Woman's Charter" to make their Swallow hotels more attractive and secure to women,

Moreover, staff will be trained so that, when a woman goes to dinner GLYN LLOYD is defecting from with a man in the dining room, the Capel Cure Sharp (formerly Albert man will not automatically be hand-E Sharp) after two years as a top IT ed the menu with the prices. The analyst to join Mark Loveland's IT menu will instead be placed in neu-

Just don't go asking for a pint of

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			OREIG	N EX	HANGE	RATES		
	Country	Sterling Spot	1 month	3 mont	Dollar h Spot	1 month	3 month	D-Mark Spot
	111	1.0000			0.5915	0.5920	0.5929 1.6136	0.3589 0.9786
	ա aa nia	2.7268	2.7251	2.721 19.54	3 1.6128 8 11.596	1.6132 11.594	11.591	7.0360
	Austria	19.606	19.586 57.648	58.46		34.125	34.665	20.636
	Belgium	57.502 2 6036	2.6003	2.595		1.5393	1.5390	0.9343
	Canada	10.605	10.583	10.55	2 6.2724	6.2648	6.2568	3.8058
	Denmark ECU	1.4192	1.4154	1,409	2 1.1914	1.1935	1.1969	0.8071
	Finland	8.4723	8.4496	8,412	8 5.0110	5.0019	4.9882	3.0405
	France	9.346	9.318	9.27	8 5.5279	5.5160	5 5014	3.3541
	Germany	2.7865	2.7784	2.766		1.6447	1.6404 280.29	1.0000 167.67
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	Hong Kong	13,100	13.086	13.08 1.112		1.5113	1.5155	0.9153
٠	ireland	1,1208	1,1178	2740.		1629.0	1624.8	990.53
	Italy	2760.1	2751.9 193.36	191.5	8 115.03	114.46	113.59	69.796
	lapan	194,49 6,4265	6.5612	6.764		3.8840	4.0110	2.3063
	Malaysia	16.813	0.3012		9.9444			6.0338
	Mexico Netherlands	3,1412	3.1318	3.118	3 1.8579	1.8539	1.8490	1.1273
	New Zealand	2246	3.2434	3.239	3 0.5211	1.9200	1.9207	0,3162
	Norway	13.099	13.123	Ī3.15	3 7.7475	7.7685	7.7985	4,7009
	Portugal	285.79	284.98	283.7	7 169.03	168.70 3.7625	168.26 3.7720	102.56 2.2772
	Saudi Arabia	6.3454	6.3560	6.361	7 3.7530	1.6375	1.6301	0.9971
	Singapore	2.7783	2.7662	2.749		6.0848	6.2020	3.6512
•	South Africa	10,1741	10.2790	10.469 235.4		139.98	139.60	85.098
	Spain	237,15	236,47	13.45		7.9976	7.9772	4.8614
L	Sweden	13.546	13.510	2.222		1.3251	1.3176	0.8071
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	Argentina	1 690° 2.036		1.2045	Pakistan	82.42		48.750
	Brazil	13.99		8.2776	Phillipines	65.85		38.950
,	China	50.25		29.725	Poland	5.875		3.4775
	Czechnep	5,771		3,4138	Curar	6.153		3.6398
	Egyr	3952.		2337.5	Russia	36013		21300.0
		3902. 366.5		216.82	South Korea	2033		1202.50 32.270
	Hungary India	71 98		42.575	Taiwan	54.56		32.270
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	indonesia Kuwait	0.509	7	0.3015	Turkey	51567		3,6731
	Marant Maran	1437		85 000	UAE	6.210	כו	3.0731

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Netherlands	Denmark	Sweden		Discount	1.00%
SpAdvance 3 00%	Discount 3.509	Repo(Ave)	3.60%	Lombard	2.50%
		Withou	_		
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Belgium 3.25 0.06 Canada 4.66 -0.0		3.14 -0.02 4.64 -0.05	3.46 O. 4 68 -O.		
ECU 3,40 -0.0	3.23 -0.01	3.23 -0.01	3.47 0.	04 3.92	0.01
France 0.00 0.00 Germany 3.35 -0.00		3.16 0 02 3.18 0.02	3.41 O. 3.36 O.		
icaly 2.88 -0.09	5 3.14 0.00	3,28 0.01	3.37 0.	05 3.95	0.07
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Eurodollar CDs ECU Deposits				2.75 3.31	
					

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	Contract		Settlemer	nt High	Low	Est floor volume	Open Interest
	Long Gilt	Dec-98	118 56	118.84	118.41	317.00	3858 00
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,	German Sund	Mar-99	116.00				0.00
	italian Bond	Mar-99	113.95	114.34	113.76	14271.00	40216-00
,	Japan Govt Bd	Mar-99	134.27	135.05	134.09	1110.00	0.00
	3 Mth Sterling	Dec-98	93 63	93 64	93.60	17803.00	160920.00
	_	Jun-99	94.84	94.87		18786 00	154686.00
.	3 Mth Euromark	Jan-99	96 79	96.79	96 79	4250.00	15512 00
		F eb-99	96.84				30 0 00
•	3 Mch Eurolfra	Mar-99	96.88	96 90	96.87	9789.00	248173 00
		Jun-99	96.98	95.99	96 96	2993.00	72350 00
	3 Mth Euroyen	Mar-99	99.45				0.00
	3 Mich Euroswiss	Mar-99	98.55	98.71	98.54		66732 00
		Apr-99	98 46	98.62	98.46	3868.00	31927.00
- 1	3 Mth Euro	Jan-99	96 79		•••	•••	0.00
		Feb-99	96 84				0.00
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Н		=100	132.21	1 15	0.68	191 03	-30.79
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OTHER SPOTS AT 5:30PM	Aug99 244.40	Feb99 855.00		80.75 May	9 230.25		
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	lan Flax	(MCE) \$/20 m	-	May Woollen	fam (TCM	5/500kg 1	165.00

XTHE INDEPENDENT **GUIDE TO FLEXIBLE MORTGAGES** by Nic Cicutti ExtraincomeA For East Acc Fundoffunds/ Fundoffunds/ In Crown Proble

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SPORT

Henry's vision makes Wales worthy Five Nations bet

ENGLAND ARE 5-4 on for the Five sonably settled team, for which sitions. Mustoe has, like many play-Nations' Championship, France 6-4. Wales 8-1 and both Scotland and Ireland 40-1. To a certain extent these odds reflect the supposedly more open nature of the competition in 1999. In recent seasons at least one of the Celtic nations would have been at 66-1 or even longer

England are still poor value, as they usually are, presumably because the bookmakers take account both of the money which has already been (as they like to say) invested and of the money which they anticipate will be. France are surely the cautious man's (or woman's) bet, while Wales are worth a flutter.

My native land are, for once, entering the competition with a rea-

the new coach, Graham Henry, can take credit whatever happens in 1999. There are problems on the left wing, but then, for no reason I can see, that position has always presented difficulties in Wales. Henry has also to acquire a loose-head prop of international class.

I read somewhere the other day that what Wales needs is a new front row. This is more than a little unfair to the abilities of David Young at tight-head and of Jonathan Humphreys, Barrie Williams and Garin Jenkins as hookers. All of them could go - some have already gone - on a Lions trip without disgracing the party. I blame Cardiff for preferring Andrew Lewis at loose-head and shunting Lyndon Mustoe between the two prop po-

ers, suffered for his versatility,

Henry has put together a good back row - Colin Charvis, Scott **Quinnell and Martyn Williams have** long been available - and unpicked the lock problem by calling up Craig Quinnell, as I had been urging for some time, and moving Chris Wyatt from No 8, as the England coach, Clive Woodward, has done with Tim Rodber.

Though there has been much gloomy talk of Woodward's problems, despite the win over South Africa, he is in reality in much the same happy position as Henry. The difference is that, whereas Henry has reached it through a combination of an acute rugby intelligence with ordinary common sense, Woodward has a profusion of good-



WATKINS

ish players at his disposal and four outstanding performers in Jeremy Guscott, Martin Johnson, Lawrence Dallaglio and Neil Back.

Woodward will presumably stick with Matt Perry at full-back, As I wrote last week, his only genuine

problem is at outside-half. The been lax in maintaining good order most interesting news of the week and rugby discipline in England. was that Joel Stransky was keen to play for England in the World Cup. But Woodward has said that he would not pick him. In any case Stransky is not qualified 'til September 1999. A correspondent points out that last week I erred about his age: he was born on 6 January 1967, which makes him 31, not 34. Apologies all round.

There is one other matter on which I would like to comment. The International Rugby Board is meeting in Dublin this week. One item on the agenda is the English clubs' challenge to the Rugby Football Union in the European Court. The IRB seems to believe that the RFU could and should have prevented this move by the clubs - that it has

One of the board's luminaries is Vernon Pugh. He is a former pupil of my old school, the Amman Valley Grammar School, Ammanford. He is also a QC. I should have expected him to advise the IRB to follow a more prudent course.

Admittedly there is no compulsion on any person or organisation to assert what is claimed to be a legal right in the courts. It does not follow from this that a third party is entitled to try to dissuade the aggrieved person or organisation from asserting that right. On the contrary: the House of Lords has held that such an attempt at dissuasion can constitute a contempt of court and

is punishable accordingly. What is involved here - what the

requires, the RFU to do - amounts to considerably more than an attempt at dissuasion such as would be made by a newspaper, say, in urging a rich plaintiff not to pursue a poor defendant. The board is asking the RFU to use its coercive powers to restrain the clubs from going to law, as they are legally entitled to do.

Certainly they are going to law in Europe rather than in the High Court in London. But under the European Communities Act 1972, European law is not only part of United Kingdom law but, in cases of conflict, supersedes it.

It is hard not to conclude that the IRB is urging the RFU to commit a contempt of court and. in so doing, is itself guilty of con-

Dorigo returns to hit the spot

A former England full-back who lost his way in Italy has put his career back on track with a move to Derby. By Ian Stafford

HALF-TIME IN the away team's relegation two years ago with the as-Nottingham. Jim Smith, the venerable Derby County manager, is adessing his troops. Glancing at fourth, above Perugia but only on Tony Dorigo, he asks his newly Coured wing-back to take on p ty duties for the second half.

"Sure, no problem," the experienced, former England international replied. Then the memories came six minutes, but fought their way flooding back. The last penalty Dori- back to a 1-1 draw after extra time. go had taken, in a shoot-out during At 3-3 in the penalty competition, last May's promotion play-off bein a miss, indeed the only miss in the the inside of the post and rolled whole competi-

A stunned Tormo, the so-'Playing in Italy was a called sleeping giants of Italian great education for me. football were At the age of 32 I can sentenced to yet another season finally speak to my father in Serie B. in Italian "Moments

after agreeing to take a penalty I

wondered if the boss knew I'd Instead, Perugia won 5-4. "I was the missed with my last effort," Dorigo only player to miss a penalty." admits, as we sit in the Derby training ground pavilion drinking tea. "I thought I'd better not tell him."

As fate would have it, Derby were a draw. "Funnily enough, as I went markably relaxed about it. I think fault." that's because, although I was disappointed about the Torino miss, I wasn't emotionally scarred."

time. Even thinking about it makes joined the Italians from Elland Road you want to curl up and die. Torino. languishing in the large and dark of the 1997-8 season. "I always wantshadow of their city neighbours. ed to play in Italy, especially as my Juventus, had cured their shock of father's Italian, and I knew Torino

dressing-room at the City Ground. sumption that they would bounce straight back up to Serie A.

goal difference. Italian rules dictated that the two sides had to light it out in a one-off play-off match to decide which of them gained promotion. Toring were down to 10 men after just Dorigo stepped forward and watched tween Torino and Perugia, resulted in horror as his shot crashed against across the goal.

"Torino would have made £20m if they'd gone up," he says, with a rueful smile on his face. "I reckon I couldn't have been more than an inch away

from scoring."

What was the reaction like to him

after this? "Not bad, actually," Dorigo says. "I was all over the front pages of the sporting newspapers arded a spot-kick after the break. and television in Italy, but the play-Dorigo, the personification of calm, ers were very understanding, and I stepped forward and slotted home was voted the team's player of the his penalty kick to help his team to year. It wasn't very nice to have missed. It hurt. But I didn't see Torito place the ball on the spot, I felt re- no's failure to get promoted as my

The result, though, changed Dorigo's circumstances. On a two-year contract, the former Aston Villa, But it must have been awful at the Chelsea and Leeds defender had on the Bosman ruling for the start

Tony Dorigo, a seasoned professional with a high-quality pedigree, believes he has much to offer a Derby County team with many foreign players were a big club. The plan was to play mentioning their reduced offer to in Serie B for a season, and then Dorigo at the end of July, a time enjoy the likes of Juventus, Milan when most English Premiership clubs had completed their summer and Inter the next after Torino's promotion. shopping for the new season. "I As Dorigo does not need respent August flying backwards and minding, this failed to materialise. forwards to Turin, packing up my house, and training by myself," he Suddenly he and his club had a probexplains. "Torino definitely left me lem. "Torino were paying their play-

ers Serie A wages. They could do this in a hole when they couldn't honour for a season, but not for two. Altheir contract." though they wanted me to stay, they offered me a 50 per cent pay cut. "Playing in Italy was a great edu-cation for me, both as a current player, and for someone who plans to "Graeme was definitely one of the turn to coaching and management.

I had learnt the language and, at the age of 32, can finally speak to my fasign me for Rangers when I was at ther in Italian, And the kids (Dorigo has three] were coming along well. But I couldn't afford to stay, and Graeme's problem was that I was I didn't feel Torino's offer was right." the only player he was allowed to What made matters worse was that the Italians only got round to

much of a chance."

In truth, Dorigo's task became difficult as soon as his manager, Graeme Souness, was shown the door after just six games of the

reasons why I joined in the first place," he admits. "He had tried to

were expected to win every game. ago, there might have been a feel-Looking back, he didn't really stand

Derby had already shown an interest in the English export at the back end of last season

happy at Torino. How did I know I was then going to miss the penalty that condemned us to another season in a lower league?" Jim Smith, though, was persistent. After a short trial, which Dorigo passed with flying colours, and a handful of Premiership matches in which he impressed, he duly signed a two-year deal on 19 November.

Perhaps the only surprise in all this is how .. _ uorigo has slotted back into Premiership football. At 32 Chelsea, and we got along well. But he is hardly drawing on his pension yet, but after a long injury at Leeds, and his last cap gained during the sign. The rest, all 15 of them, had infamous World Cup qualifying debeen presented to Souness. We feat in Rotterdam over four years

ing within the game that Dorigo's shelf life was fast running out.

"I'd understand that," he concedes. "I think my 10-month absence through injury, and my season in Italy had made me a for-"Like an idiot, I told them I was gotten man. People may not re-

member that I was part of the League championship-winning team at Leeds, or that I won 15 caps and figured in the 1988 and 1992 European Championship, and 1990 World Cup squads. "The problem was that Stuart

Pearce was always above me in the pecking order. The timing of my injury didn't help either. It was a basic hamstring injury in my left leg. but it was misdiagnosed, and I kept on coming back too early. But I haven't changed as a player.

"I think what helps me at Derby is that I'm English, in a team of many foreign players, and I'm experienced.

The game suits me more now, too. Wing-backs seem to be in favour, and that's a system that allows a player like me more of a chance to shine."

All in all, his decision to leave his native Australia at the age of 16 and sign as an apprentice with Villa has turned out to be a good one, give or take the odd hiccup. Despite 15 English caps to his Italian surname, Dorigo still sees himself as an Aussie first.

"When it comes to football, then it's England." he insists as he makes his way out to the car park. "In the current Ashes series, though, it's no contest. Australia always gets the nod over the Poms."

And what if he is asked to take another penalty for Derby, this time in a cup final, or a play-off match? Dorigo laughs, and for the first time all morning, sounds like an antipodean. "No worries, mate," he says, and

Dream away the long winter nights in this fantasy world

WHEN THE World Atlas of Golf was original. Like a good round of golf Price are giants of the pantheon of first published in 1976, Tom Scott in - where all parts of a player's game Golf Illustrated gave it the sort of come together and are complereview a publisher would kill for at mented by fine weather, good comthis time of year. "A book," Scott pany and a well-stocked 19th - the wrote, "you would love to give to your oldest and dearest golfing friend and one which you yourself would like to receive as a present."

Scott went on: "It succeeds brilliantly and the result of the combined efforts of all concerned is a book which far exceeds anything of the kind which has ever been attempted before and which therefore is a golf collector's dream."

The revised and updated edition (Hamlyn, 125) published this auumn cannot, quite obviously, live up to the whole of that tribute but it is still a magnificent tome and would be welcomed by any golfer even if be welcomed by any goale and the Warren Wind and Charles erately short right of the green, are Ballybunion and Royal Troon cipal aim was to raise a laugh.

combined efforts of all those involved in the new edition of the World Atlas of Golf make it the ideal antidote to the long winter nights as playing gives way to fantasy golf.

The subtitle is "The Greatest Courses and How to Play Them". something you can do from your phy, stylish illustrations and course guides bring each of the exotic venues to life, but it is the quality of the writing that does most to stir the

imagination. The publishers of the original edition found the perfect fourball for their enterprise. Pat Ward-Thomas, with a drive and a four-iron delib-

golf writers while Peter Thomson, the five-times Open winner, belongs to the pantheon of champion golfers. It was the task of Derek Lawrenson to update their prose and he has brought it off far better than when many modern golf course architects are hired to revise an old masterpiece.

Lawrenson has left alone much of the main text but overhauled many of the accompaniments that illustrated some of the great holes and their place in the history of the great championships. Modern technology has not only led to many changes to old courses but to how they are played. The perfect example is the 11th at Augusta National. Once played by Ben Hogan

BOOKS FOR **CHRISTMAS**

Today: Golf

Tiger Woods could shoot straight for the flag with a sand wedge while winning the 1997 Masters.

Some 70 courses are covered in great detail and another 110 are featured with short notes in the Gazetteer. Lawrenson has left the choice of courses largely as it was. a comment on the quality of new years although Muirfield Village is

while three new additions are The Belfry, soon to stage its fourth Ryder Cup in 2001, Loch Lomond and Valderrama.

and great players and more are featured in Dobereiner on Golf... and more (edited by Robert Green and Ruth Dobereiner, Aurum Press, £12.95). Peter Dobereiner may have passed away two years ago but his words live on. This collection may have all been published previously, mainly in the Observer, Golf World or Golf Digest, but are no less wel-

come for all that. The "and more" in the title refers to scripts written for TW3, the Have tournament venues in the last 25 I Got News for You of its day, which only goes to emphasise that unlucky not to be promoted to the whether Dobereiner was writing main section. Two that have been about golf or other matters, his prin-

golf course is to start 200 years ago" are featured in The Quotable Reflections on the great courses Golfer (edited by Robert Windeler,

Running Press, £9.99). Much wit and wisdom is contained between the covers. Jack Nicklaus-designed courses, according to David Feherty, "are like those hot-air hand dryers in toilets. They are a great idea and everybody uses them once but not again. They

take too long." The combustible Tommy Bolt had this to say when asked for a golfing tip: "Never break your putter and your driver in the same round or you're dead." But George Archer full, vicious swing without dislodgseems to have got the wrong end of the stick: "If it wasn't for golf, I'd probably be a caddie today."

Finally, for the millionaire in

Some of Dobereiner's best lines your life who has everything, there - such as "the best way to build a is The Golfer and the Millionaire (by Mark Fisher, Cassell, £5.99). From the same author of The Instant Millionaire. How to Think like a Millionaire and The New Art of Loving, this is a self-improvement book subtitled "... it's about having the balls to succeed."

This is exactly the sort of book that Peter Dobereiner was thinking of when he wrote that "used properly, a book is all you need to become a champion.

"What you do is balance it on the top of your head and then swing a club as hard as you can. Once you have mastered the art of taking a ing the book, you can play golf. If you should succumb to the temptation of reading it, then all is lost."

Andy Farrell

Shelling out for a Derby dream ticket

Mares and fillies are the main attraction at the December Sales as breeders stalk the lineage of future Classic winners. By Sue Montgomery

THE FLAT season is now a distant memory these grey winter represents faith in the future, days for those out and about on the racecourse, but behind the scenes in Newmarket last week many a long-term masterplan was being hatched with Epsom. Churchill Downs or even Flemington as the final objective. The it was still one of the best on occasion was the Tattersalis December Sales, the final flourish of the British auction calendar and the year's last great international gathering of the bloodstock circus. Earth recently

There, in the shape of pregnant mares and maiden fillies. was the seed-corn that will provide for the future of Thoroughbred breeding. Horsemen and women from all over the globe came, as they have for more than a century, to secure the choicest bloodlines, to buy into some of the Turf's great families and to maybe, just maybe, launch a dynasty of their own.

A strong December Sale and though last week's edition was not a patch on the feeding frenzy of 12 months previously, when the filly Dance Design topped the trading at an extraordinary 2.5 million guineas record. The note was caution rather than lack of confidence; some of the major bloodstock players (or possibly their financial advisors) appear to have paid a visit to Planet

Buyers from nearly 50 countries gave some £35 million for the 958 mares and fillies and odd stallion prospect sold last week. The high point came when Shell Ginger, soon to become a mother, waddled round the ring. The pretty chestnut four-year-old never fulfilled the promise of her juvenile career with Aidan O'Brien, but she is a daughter of Woodman

of excellent family and is expecting a Sadler's Wells foal next month. Auctioneer David Pim knocked her down for a cool 775,000 guineas and she went back to Ireland to await her firstborn who will, in an ideal world, win the 2002

Glorosia, winner of last year's Fillies Mile at Ascot but disappointing this term, transferred to the ownership of Baron Georg von Ullmann for 650,000 guineas and will be given the chance to recapture her sparkle as she remains in training with Luca Cumani.

Wellspring's only victory came in a Pontefract maiden last year but, as a daughter of Marwell carrying to Cadeaux Genereux, she was valued last week at the 625,000 guineas given by a client of the Niarchos family's Fresnay-le-Buffard stud. Fanjica, whose greatgrandmother Ivanjica won an



The pregnant Lower The Tone, Lot 2004, is paraded in the Newmarket sales ring as Tattersalls auctioneers take bids

Arc, took the Lancashire Oaks Does Mr Magnier know some- Mohammed's Darley Stud for three years ago and will, at a cost of 330,000 guineas, grace the paddocks at Shadai Farm in

The Coolmore team were delighted to snap up three-yearold Encens, a minor winner in the French provinces in the Niarchos colours, for 305,000 gumeas. Sure, her dam is a halfsister to Khaled Abdullah's great mare Slightly Dangerous, dam of the 1993 Derby winner Commander In Chief, and produced Scenic early in her stud career, but her two-year-old is Cupid, Group One-placed for Aidan O'Brien & co.

If he wins the Derby, what will Encens' children be worth?

thing we don't?

For 300,000 guineas, 12-yearold Party Doll, from the family of Dream Well, made the transfer from Normandy to the Lloyd Webbers' Watership Down Stud in Hampshire, where she will, presumably continue to breed like a rabbit.

And Loure, whose best effort was to finish second in a Yarmouth maiden seven years ago, proved that successful gambles are not restricted to the track. Three years ago, at the same fixture, Newmarket bloodstock agent Jill Lamb shrewdly picked the beautifully-bred mare out of the 106-

80,000gns and last week her client traded back the 10-yearold, with a sibling to the smart filly Entice due in March, for 420,000 guineas.

All the big studs and stables offload stock surplus to requirements each year, and hen the opportunity comes to buy into a top bloodline, breeders flock like vultures, at all levels of the market, to weave more threads into the tapestry that is the Thoroughbred stud

Take the Jim Joel dispersal 12 years ago. Sheikh Mohammed, then in the process of building up his broodmare strong cull from Sheikh band, bought just one mare,

paying 600,000 gumeas for Lady Moon, in foal to Kris. She died young, but that Kris baby was Moon Cactus, who proved a high-class runner and went on to produce the Sheikh's 1995 Oaks heroine Moonshell as her first foal.

And it is not only at the top of the market that hopes can be fulfilled. Take Regal Beauty, for instance, the cheapest of that Joel draft at 5,200 guineas. She was sold as a barrener to Michael Poland, who foal for him proved to be King's Theatre, runner-up in two Derbys and winner of the King George VI and Queen

Elizabeth Diamond Stakes.

bred for Joel, went on to sire this year's Derby hero, High-

The influence of the Joel consignment filtered worldwide. Daffodil Day for instance, a half-sister to the Derby runner-up Connaught, went off to (the Antipodes and became responsible for an Australian Derby winner. Dance The Day Away. Last week, among the unheralded 25,000-guineas alsorans, Daffodil Day's ordinary hit the jackpot when her first grand-daughter Lower The Tone, twice a winner at lowly Traige in Ireland and in foal to Night Shift, picked up the December Sales baton for her

FOLKESTONE

HYPERION 2.30 Kingsmark

12.30 Super Mac 1.00 Fantaron 3.00 First Instance 1.30 Wontcostalothut 3.30 Be My Judge 2.00 Mountain Path

GOING: Chase course - Good to Soft; Hurdles course - Soft (Heavy in home straight). Right-hand, undulating course with a run-in of one furiong. E Racecourse is 6m W of fown off A20, Westerhanger railway station (service from London, Charling Cross) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Club & Tattersalis £10; Picric Park £4 per car & £4 per occupant. Accompanied under-16s free. CAR PARK:

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADING TRAINERS: J Gifford 13 winners from 62 runners (success rate 21%), N Henderson 8-25 (32%), D Grissell 8-58 (13.8%), R Rowe 8-56 (10.7%), Mrs D Haine 5-21 (23.8%), M Pipe 5-29 (17.2%). III LEADING JOCKEYS: N Williamson 10 winners from 48 rides (20,8%), M A Fitzger aid 9-48 (188%), P Hide 9-53 (17%), A P McCoy 8-48 (16.7%), R Dunwoody 7-42 (16.7%), B Fenton 6-39 (15.4%).

FAVOURITES: 98 wins in 233 races (success rate 42.1%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Zatarelli (12:30), Topanga (visored, 12:30).

12.30 LEVY BOARD NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) \$2,900 added 2m 1f 110yds Penafty

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2	038/	FAIRY KNOGHT (F67) (Major A M Everett) K Balley 6 17 2
13	230-40	COPPER SHELL (17) (Galagher Equine Ltd) Mrs L Jawell 4 ft 2
4	42-0	SUPER MAC (19) (Mrs A Trigg) P Hedger 5 10 9T Descombe
l 5	550-3	KRABILOONIK (FR) (28) (Mrs Deborah Poner) J Multre 4 10 8
8	7S-405	RICHIE'S DELIGHT (15) (G A Hubbard) G Hubbard 5 to 0
7	00-624	STONE REDGE (26) (Jeft Pearce) J Pearce 6 10 0 S Durack
8	2240-5	ILLUMINATE (12) (J S Court) D OBrien 5 10 0
9	540-0P	ZAFARELLI (2) (A M Elist J Jankins 4 to 0
10		KOATHARY (33) (Edward Harvey) A H Hervey 7 to 0
] fr	3/P-30	TOPANGA (25) (Miler Place Racing Club) M Bradstock 6 to 0
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13	F-0P00	SMART GUY (22) (Mrs P's Donker) Mrs L.Javell 6 to 0
مدا	oimm wee	ntt: 10st Tour handista waintte: Sama Richa Heminata Zolomii I. Koothen Det 12th

Topange 9st 9th, Greenade Chat & Sman Guy 8st 7th BETTING: 9-4 Catfish Keith, 4-1 Stone Ridge, 8-1 Fairy Knight, Super Mac, Krabiconik, illuminate 12-1 Copper Shell, Richle's Delight, 16-1 others 1997: Amai Sort R(Fr) 6 11 10 D Bridgwater 7-2 (G McCourt) 7 ran

FORM GUIDE

Catflish Keith: Ex-Irish, made promising hurdles debut at Windsor to wir by 8 lengths from Tindsy Tiesor though hardly thrown in on handbap debut. Pairy Knight: Flat winner here and at Kempton in spring. Bought out of R Harmon's stable 4500gns Newmarket Autumn Sales. Signs of ability over hurdles 2 seasons

Copper Shell: Wet besten 7th of 12 to Cashaplemy in Warwick handicap since fair fourth to Dancing Lazd at Windsor (2m nov hills, good to soft). Super Mace Made the running before dropping out on the home turn in nov hills won by Alhoosam at Taumon on reappearance. In frame both outings last term and sting contender on handicap debut

Massauring contraction on rearrange present.

Krabbloomitic Looked unfucky on debut for new stable at Wincarton where he nearly unsealed rider on stumbling 2 out and was railying when a mistake at the last
meant he had to settle for a close third to Brush With Time. Runner-up Red Guard Richie's Delight: Ex-insh point-to-point winner. Coming back in trip having failed r farther last 2 outlings oge: Just under 2 lengths behind Krabiponik at Wincamon last time and

2to better off. Previously second to very easy winner Bold Gelt at Newbury Illuminate: In trame over longer distances last four starts last season. Taled off behind improved Bowcliffe Court in Leicester http on reappearance Zofarelli: Taled off when pulled up after the last at Lingfield on Saturday Little cause

for optimism
Koathary: Has failed to complete this term and apparent no-hoper
Topango: Coming back in trip after finishing well besten at Exeter since third to comfortable winner Myosotis at Sandown
Greenalde Chet: Not seen out since pulled up in Fontwell seller in February
Smart Guy: Any ability has been well disguised to date

VERDICT: Catflish Keith comes from a stable in form and is lightly raced, but the question is whether the handicapper has overrated his easy win from moderate op-position at Windson KRABLOONIK looked a most unlucky loser at Windson and can make his weight advantage tel. Flarly Knight was an in-land-out performer on the Flat but is an interesting new acquisition to the Bailey yard while Super Mac has

1.00 HEATHFIELD NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2m 5f Penalty Value £4,078

2	0-0	ARTIC MIST (31) (The Lincoln Patrershall D OBren 7 to 12					
9	-3-62U	CHEEKY CHAFLIE (12) (C) (Pril Colins) G L Moore 6 10 12					
4	030/1-	CHRISTCHURCH (FR) (394) (D) (Denns Breen) J S Moore 8 to 12 J Mages					
5		MAAD (15) (C) (D) (Abri Brackley) K Comerlord 8 to 12 M Brewen					
Б	PP-FO	JEWELLER'S WELLS (12) (Mrs V OBrent) D O'Bren 8 to 12 14 Batchelor (5)					
7	3113/0	LEAD VOCALIST (38) (D) (Capt A Pratt) R Rose 9 to 12 B Powell					
8		MR BOJANGLES (7) (D) (BF) (Mrs D Lousada) 1 Casey 7 to 12					
9	21°00	MR EDGAR (22) (Feix Fosenstie's Widow & Son) J Gilford 7 to 12					
10	(P05.0	PERSIAN BOY (11) (K.G. Marier) C Sharwood 6 10 12					
π	643.3F	PURPLE ACE (24) (Sr (Tristopher Wallard) N Gaselee 6 to 12					
2	œ	RAGREG GALE (13) (Four Owners & A Racehorse) L Wells 6 10 12 P Holley					
ß	211P1/	SALMON SPEEZE (571) (D) (Salmon Recinc) N Henderson 7 to 12 M A Programme					
14		TOMS LEGACY (The Betts Partnershap) Mrs. L. Jewell 8 to 12					
5		VIKING ROD (21) Lichn Nicholts (Banbury) Ltd) M Willerson 6 10 12					
8	ប់៕។	STORMING LAUY (578) (CD) (Like Roberts) M.J. Roberts 8 10 11					
		- 16 declared -					
ŒΤ	SETTING: 11-10 Fentaron, 6-1 Mr Bolangles, 7-1 Salpton Bresze, 10-1 Cheeky Chertie, knad, Pur-						
	in Sea. 14-1 Christohusch, 16-1 others						

1997 Sir Dante (ine) 6 10 12 D Bridgesser 13-8 fav (A Rowe) 7 ran

FORM GUIDE

Fanfaron: Young French import who made most impressive chasing debut at Ma ket Flasen winning very easily from Niki Dee and Lets Be Frank, both neg-time-o scores.

Artic Milet: Chasing debut and little sign of ability in nonce hurdles.

Cheeky Charife: Unpredictable sont who got no faritier than the 1st last time, but was previously a 10 length's second to Scavo at Plumpton.

Christiciturch: Carvincing winner of qu'ile good 2m 51 nov hidle at Towcester in November last year but not seen out since. Bred for chasing imad: Defied top weight when beating Airs! Soit II in hop hole over emilar trip here last time and likes testing ground. Only previous tending effort inconclusive Jeweller's Wellat: Yet to set the world alight.

Lead Vocalist: Bit late to go chasing though was fair hurder 3 seasons ago and looks the sort to do well. Needed race on Wincanton reappearance.

Mr Bojangles: Early faller at Fontwell last week. Previously stuck to task well when second to odds on Nordance Prince at Towcester. Section to couldn't invitable Prints at towester. Mr Edgar: Fontwell now hele winner 2 seasons ago. Has needed nurs this term, Lit-tle to recommend him apert from stable record here. Remains Boy: Hereford chasing debut not too encouraging but comes from respected.

Purple Ace: Up with the action when falling 3 out in race won by No More Hassi on west time. Possible each-way chance ie: Strong Gale gelding. Little to recommend him on 2 starts over Salmon Breeze: Son of Kambalda who had fair hurdes form 2 seasons ago. Expected to do well over fences Tome Legacy: By Relikho out of a winning hunter chaser. Best watched today Vilking Rod: Ex-frish winner of point-to-point this year. Tailed off behind Fantaron at Market Resen

VERDICT: FANFARON put up a cracking performence at Market Resen on his British debut and the form has been upheld. With a clear round he is unopposable. Salmon Breeze has been off the course for a season but with his stable in such form he

1.30 SELLINDGE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,400 added 2m 6f 110yds Penalty Value £2,143

ı	43204	WONTCOSTALOTBUT (14) (D) (Montocetalot Partners) M Wildraco 4 12 0 R Manage
2		MORTHERN VILLAGE (7) (D) (LP Dace) LA Dace 11 11 8
•	P2F-61	MALLIMOURT (15) (CD) (Tarriny Breen) T McGovern 8 ti 8 Mages B
ı	/tF-3P	SOPHE MAY (21) (C) (J Daniels) D Morris ? 11 5
5	2/530-	EHTEFAAL (362) (Mrs Manygold O'Kelly) J King 7 11 3 L Cummins
5	52P1/P	HI HEDLEY (15) (CD) (G A Hubbard) G Hubbard 8 11 1
7		FLYING FOOTSIE (15) (Mile Roberts) M J Roberts 5 11 0
1	-06333	SORBIERE (15) (C) (Mrs R A Proctor) D Grissell 11 105
•	23P5-0	EQUITY'S DAFILING (15) (Mrs V O'Brien) D O'Brien 6 to 0
0	55-550	SMUGGLER'S POINT (24) (D) (J F Wald) J Bridger 8 to 0
1	48543	ADILOV (7) (T Mitchell & Mrs H Veal) J Bridger 6 10 0
2		KILORAN BAY (225) (N Stat) R Rome 7 10 C
		- 12 declared -

en welght: 10st. True handicap welghts: Equity's Derling 9st 128), Smuggler's Point 9st 98), Addion RETTING: 5-2 Millimount, 9-2 Wontcom 10-1 Entelsal, 1% Hedley, 18-1 others

1997: MB Mount (fre) 7 10 11 R Thornton 3-1 jt fav (T McGovern) 8 nan

Wontcostalotbut: Held up as usual and always going well, very easy winner from Blue Blazer at Newton Abbot tast time. Both ground and trip idea! Northern Village: Telled off at Fontwell last week. Northing recent to recommend

Mallmount: Best treated for some time when making all to win by 4 lengths from Keep Me in Mind at Plumpton (2m 4t, good to soft). One of the main contenders while Mayr: Winning chaser last season but below par at present and reverts to

introduction in the control of the c Flying Footsie: Has won bumper here and again ran well on this course when 2nd

doonshine Bay on reappearance. New trip but runs as if she should stay blere: Looked to be feeling his years but solid effort when third here to imad lest time. Each-way crance
Equity's Darling: A mare who has shown signs of temperament but little form
Smuggler's Point: Finished behind Sorbiere (third) when seventh of 15 finishers to
Not Forgotten in seller at Huntingdon
Additions Beaten 41 lengths when third to Mulintor in seller at Fontwell last week
Kiloran Bay: No sign of any form to date

VERDICT: Not many of these can be fancied on recent form and it may be best left to FLYING FOOTSIE, a staying-on second in a novice hurdle here on her reappearance. Wombostatiothal is in good shape at the present time, and this Nicholae BB filly

2.00 TOTE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £10,000 added 3m 2f Penalty Value £7,035

- 5 declared -

BETTING: 5-4 Mountain Path. 3-1 Folly Road, 9-2 Flippence, 5-1 Choisty, 10-1 Secret Bid. 1997. Big Ben Dun 11 ft 12 J R Karamagh 8-1 (E.L. James) 7 ran

FORM GUIDE

ntain Path: Progressive Sandown and Windsor winner last term. Raised 71b to issive 5 lengths win over Boots Madden at Worcester (2m 71 hoap ch. heavy). From yard in form and scope for further improvement, Cholsayr Out-and-out stayer. Beat Mss Destin 1% lengths from 16 higher at Warwick (3mSt, soft) in March. Has run well fresh and capable of taking a hand. Folly Roard: Stayed on strongly to beat Fighance 7 lengths from 68 lower in moderate contest at Warwick (3m2) froat, soft). Probably up against it now but the pougher the proteins the hards are

ice: Birkered first time when beaten 7 lengths by Folly Road at Warwick (3m2) Filippende: Bardered htts time when beaten / engint by may note at warrings umat, soft, 6th better with winner max. Could play by gast with repeat of Strations 2nd to Martel Boy from 10th higher in March, but is not the best of jumpers. Secret Bldt Easy C/D winner form tib higher last Junuary but not showing much spanide in recent starts, beaten 12 lengths when alsh of the Other Remark at Eveler (2m 71 hoap ch. good) last time. Cannot be ignored if market signals are right.

VERDICT: It is difficult to ignore the clasms of MOUNTAIN PATH, who looked a chasser on the way up at Worzester. With his jumping improved, he does not look over-burdened and should meaning Nicky Henderson's fine Jun Secret Bild, who was below its best strice his reappearance appeals as the damper, though chastly could

TO GOT LYMPNE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) 52 900 added 2m

Į	2.30	6f 110yds Penalty Value £2,651
1		KINGSMARK (15) (CO) (Robert Ogden) O Sherwood 5 17 5 R Durtwoody
2	4042-1	SALEEL (21) (Warsetzs Passery) lass L Viladingm 6 to 5 Mr R Forristal (7)
3	G	AU STAR (11) (Ats R & Marrel) N Botton 4 10 12
4	042P-P	BOLD LEAP (38) (Two Generators Partnersho) P R Webber 6 10 12 A Thornton
5		EPSILO DE LA RONCE (FR) (15) (Edward Harvey) A H Harvey 6 10 12 M Richards
6		FRENCH TALE (IV J Totales): A H Harvey 7 10 2
7	3030 P	JAKES JUSTICE (13) (Dard M Brans) Mrs L Richards 7 to 12 J A McCarthy
8		MONTES MAGIC (NZ) (20) (J E Brown C Marin 5 To 12 J Mages
9	OPT/2)-	NOGHT THYNE (402) (ASIa Raberts) M.J. Roberts 6 to 12
٦		POLYPHONY (F186) (ASchael Gestron) D'O'Brien 4 10 12
π		SARIT JOE 20 The St. Loseph Patrested O Sharwood 5 to 2 J Oathorns
E		CHERRY PIE (26) (Dens Barry) J Mulino 6 10 7
ī	00.P	WHISKY WILMA (237) (Heart of the South Racing (2)) D Gressell 6 to 7 J Goldstein (5)
		- 13 declared -

BETTING: evens Kingsmark, 5-2 Saleel, 7-1 Epello De La Romce, 16-1 Saint Joe, 20-1 Bold Leap, Polyphony, Cherry Pie, 25-1 others

1397 Be My Mict (ine) 5 til 7 B Fertinn 10-1 (D Gressell) 11 ran FORM GUIDE

Kingamark: Oustanting claims on 15 lengths win over Chicago City over CrD last month following easy Stratterd win. Should not be troubled if he handles easier ground. Salteel: Maintained improvement shown when 17-length 2nd to Taintainide at Amiree in May (trained by Jenny Primaria) by bearing Foreshore Man 27 lengths at Market Rasen (2m5) amail nov hidle). More to find yet, but should be thereabvouts.

Au Starr 33-1 and always behand when tailed off 5th of 11 to Native King at Sandown. (2m nov hole, good) and has little apparent chance. derate on strength of 6-length 2nd to Top Note in

Towcester 2m3/ novice hurdle last March. Pulled up on Sandown reappearance

Epallo De La Ronce: Winner 5 times over fences in France. 20-1 and every chance when 34 lengths 4th of 11 to Musical Sing at Worcester (2m4/ nov hole, heavy). Open to improvement but planty to find. Has been blinkered Jakes Justice: Some ability for Josh Gifford in 1998-97 but pulled up behind Prar Lass Hassle: Some ability for Josh Gifford in 1998-97 but pulled up behind Prar Lass Hassle: Some ability in bumpers at Haydock and Chepatow. Hurdles debut Might Thyme: First run since tailed off 7th of 9 to Noisy Miner at Chepatow (2m4) nov hole, good to soft) 13 months ago. Probably best weathed with yard out of form Polyphony: Ex-Roger Charlton Flet stayer. Signs of ability when 31-length 5th of 11 to Foreign Rule over 2m11 hare 11 months ago. Prossibilities with yard in form Saint Joe: Some ability in bumpers but tailed off 18th of 18 to Artadoin Lad at Warwick (2m ov hole, good) or jumps debut and looks stable second string Cherry Piez Promising 4th 10 Cinton at Fortwel in April for David Nichoson on hurdles debut but faded quicky and pulled up 3 out in race won by Country House at Warwick (2m 4t nov hole, good) first run for new yard. Difficult to fancy.

WERDICT: This looks well within the grasp of KINGSMARK, who had kitle more than

VERDICT: This looks wall within the grasp of KINGSMARK, who had little more than an exercise workout when withing here lest time. He is unlikely to need to find anything more to account for the progressive Saleet and Epallo De La Ronce.

3.00 SHADDOXHURST HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) 23,500 added 2m Penalty Value £2.930

1	25553-	THE CARROT MAN (287) (CD) (BF) (David A Turnbul) P Winkworth 10 12 0
2		NAR JERVIS (35) (Feix Rosenstiels Widow & Son) J (Sifford 9 to 9 P Hide
3		COOL SPOT (21) (Dave Howe) G Enright 10 10 9
•		TUCKERS TOWN (15) (Ms. Jean R Bishop) R Rove 6 TO 6 T J Murphy
5		NORTHERN SADOLER (27) (D) (R J Hodges) R Hodges 11 10 7 R Durmoody
3		SLEAZEY (22) (0) (J G O'Neil) J G O'Neil 7 10 2
7	2-0P9P	NORDIC SPREE (22) (John T Jones) G L Moore 6 to 2
3		FISSING MAN (10) (Bill Naylor) J Gifford 7 10 2L Aspell
3	123-05	FIRST INSTANCE (22) (Pepin Racing) O Gressel 8 10 1
Ð	55F-0F	UPWARD SURGE (22) (D) (R R Ladger) R Ladger 8 10 0
		- 10 declared -

1997: Pegmarite 14 10 0 J A McCarthy 5-1 (Mrs A Woodrow) 7 ran

FORM GUIDE

The Carrot Man: Yet to fulfil promise of 2 seasons ago. Best race last term when 14 lengths 2nd to Prate Box at Chepson (2nd), good to sort on reappearance from 12th higher. Acts on soft and capable of taking a fixed in this weak company Mr. Jervis: One-time useful novice hurdler. No form over tences and pulled up after melting mistales in race won by Brother Of his at Huntingdon (2m 4f nov ch, good to Cool Spot: A dual Market Rasen winner last term, the second very luckity off this hand-

wash late: Tuckers Town: Some ability over hurdes, Jumped badly when 25 lengths 6th to Reach The Clouds on chasing debut (2m, good to soft) here last month. Difficult to fancy Northern Saddler: Was useful in his prime. On the downgrade but leading chance on reappearance 3 lengths 4th to Coolten Hero at Plumpton (2m, heavy) from a 5th high-

ck Statement at Windsor (2m hcap ch, good). Will not need to find much to rolle Somee: Chance on close 2nd to Blowing Rock at Towcester in May (2m6) hop

chase, good to firm! from 36 higher, but night out of sorts this season Rising Man: Early promise over fences but has falled to finish last three starts and looks one to be wary of for the moment ice: Lingfield 2m4f seller winner last term from 2tb lower. Sions of return to form when 10 lengths 5th of 15 to Black Statement at Windsor (2m heap ch. good). ely weighted with Steazey on that but open to improvement. But Surge: Winning pointer but little form under Rules.

VERDICT: Northern Saddler is the pick of the weights on his Plumpton running, and looks sure to take a hand under Richard Dunwoody. But his attitude is open to cuestion these days and it may pay to side with SLEAZEY, who raced with plenty of entitlescent at Windoor and should be suited by this tight track. He might just get the

3.30 WEATHERBYS 'STARS OF TOMORROW' OPEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,500 added 2m 1f 110yds

		Penalty value £1,235
1		AU LAC (Don Hazzard) J Malins 4 11 4
2		BE MY JUDGE (Mrs Phippe Cooper) Mes V Williams 5 11 4
3		BROCKTON GLEN (Mrs DA La Trobe) R Suchtor 5 th 4 B Power
4		CEDAR BROOM (R O S Rooms) R OSulivan 5 11 4
5		COLD CLASS (fornomous Easy Partnership) D Gressel 5 ft 4 J R Kavanay
6		JUST THE BUSINESS (P A Bull) Miss A M Newton-Smith 5 ft 4
7	25	NO FORECAST (17) (Uplands Bloodstock) S Shorwood 4 11 4
ē		SKI SEAL (D.R. Bell) W. G. M. Turner 4 TI 4
9	FF21-0	SPRINGFORD (20) (Ramp Partnersho) Mes H Knight 6 1) 4 Mr D Morphy (
10		SUPREME IRONY (17) (Mile Roberts) M J Roberts 5 11 4
11		MAYBE LATER (364) (Team Murphy) R Curts 6 10 13
12		OH OLLA (L Web) L Web 4 10 13
		= 12 declared -
		N. Francis & S. D. H. J. J. S. S. D. L. J. S. S. D. J. J. S.

1997 Merry Shot (Ire) 5 Tt 4 R Farrant 9-2 (Mrs. J Plument) Tt ren

FORM GUIDE

POHM GUIDE

Au Lac: North Col gelding, helf-brother to 2 winners on the Flat

Be My Judge: Be My Native gelding out of a moderate rocerrage, in-form yard has a
high strike-rate in these event. One to watch in the market

Broaddon Gren: Arcoc Lord gelding out of an unroced mane

Ceder Brooms Brush Aside gelding out of a maderate pointer

Cold Glasse: Glacial Storm gelding out of a majer who ran only once

Just The Business: Golden Heights gelding out of a majer pointer

Na Forecast: Runner-up in an inship point and highly-rated by connections. Ran too

freely when 10 longths 5th of 22 to Eddy's Son on debut in a strong bumpor at War
rack (2m, sort). Likely to want all the beating

Sid Sealt Petoski gelding out of winning chaiser Rowing Seal.

Springford: Irish point to-point winner. Never in the hunt when 33 langths 7th of 13 to

John David on debut at Chepstow (2m, good to soft). Something to find.

John David on debut at Chepstow (2m, good to soft). Something to find.

Supreme Irony: Little sign of abitity when 38 longiths 12h of 22 to Eddy's Son on Warwick debut (2m, good) and held by No Forecast on that numbing

Haybe Later: First run since 20 lengths 4th of 11 to Memy Shot in the corresponding Marging Cities; i and to i second or original will be to be many critic in our consequence of case last year. Market the best guide of On Office Homo Saplen filly, half-sister to profile winning jumpers Mutual Trust and Mu-

VERDICT: It is likely to take a useful sort to bear NO FORECAST, who signalled bet ser things to come in a strong Dumper at Warmick. The market will probably lief whether Be My Hudge is likely to prove a threat, otherwise Springford may be the danger.

■ "Showcase" races are to be revamped for 1999. The British Horseracing Board's director of racing, Paul Greeves, said: "With the agreement of the Tote and bookmakers we have renamed the concept 'Showcase Handicap'. There will be 32t races in 1999 - one Showcase Handicap each day, which wherever practicable and when competitiveness is assured, will be at the principal meeting of the day." Bookmakers reported to the board that turnover on handicap races had increased this year and were keen to see a switch to concentrating on such events. Today's Showcase race, the Folkestone 2.00, failed to encourage leading bookmakers into offering early prices.

Shot heads British queue for Ladbroke

British-trained entries have been made for the Ladbroke Handicap Hurdle at Leopardstown next month. The IR£75,000 race, the richest of its type in Ireland, has Luck, who has 10st 2lb. "That's twice gone to British raiders in

its 12-year history. David Elsworth's Barnbrook Again took the spoils in 1987 and the Jenny Pitman-trained Master Tribe struck in 1997. Sharpical, the subsequent nalised plans, but Michael Tote Gold Trophy winner. would have gone close last

Nicky Henderson's charge has run." liotted 11st 4ih t

top five slots in the handicap. Mary Reveley could be rep-

Jenny Pitman could run Balyear but for a blunder at the last ladur. Her husband, David Stait, which saw him fade into sixth. said: "Jenny's keen to get a prep Having run off 10st 6lb there, race into him and the plan is to

2.50: (2m 4f novice chase)
1. MENSHAARR Supple 11-8 tav

NEWCASTLE Going: Soft (Heavy in places)

10 ran. 13, 15, 1/s, 22, 21/s. (Winner bay gelding by Chief's Crown out of Charming Life, trained by A Streeter at Ultro-eter for Alan Barteri, Tote: £430: £170, £110, £340, DF-£770, CSF: £1845, NR: Kahabad

9 ran. 8, shi-hd, 4, 31;, 6 (Winner chest-nut coll by kins out of Green Luca, trained by L Lungor at Carrutherstown for P M Canly Tote: 2810, 1220, E180, 1230, DF: 198003 CSF: £1791, Thoast £14189, Tota Trifecta: £34170, hR Swandale Flyer The Lamburn volus, zour consupuiged-ing by Dunbeath out of Caroline Lamb, valued by Mrs M Reveley of Saltburn for A Sharratt S Mr J Renton) Totes 1180; CLU, CLID, C200, DF: £160 CSF, £195 NR, Big

Nap: Mary's Feelings (Musselburgh 3.20) NB: North Tipp (Musselburgh 2.50)

Also: 7-2 Kingonnie (4th), 12-1 Gus Berry (5th), 16-1 Classic Blues, Setting Sun, Smart Boy, 20-1 Camtex Capers, 33-1 Bal-lymarta Boy, Bombadi, Time Atter Thyre, 50-1 Angry Native, Bunovse, Como And Run (6th), Our Carol Wilsam of Orange, 100-1 Aquarona, Charlotto's Moss. 19 ran. 16. 11/s. 4, 5, 22 (Winner chostnut golding by Tom's Shu out of Katan, trained by S Brookshaw at Ulfington for Stenley W Chrise). Total: £270; £130; £230; £250 DF. £1430; CSF: £1290

Bran. 5. 7; 13, dryl. (Winner chestruit gold-ing by Aristocracy out of Smurfatt, trained by J Howard Johnson of Crook for R. J Crake) Tote: C380, £120, £190, £330, Dual Forecast: £1190, CSF, £4834, Tricast, £7831.

2.20: (2m 4i handicap hundio) 1. WOODFIELD GALE...... Also: 9-2 Palacegato King (4th), 11-2 Cum-brian Maestro (5th), 6-1 Charming Admi-ral, 14-1 Great Easeby, 33 1 Forbidden

B ren. S. S. S. 7., 23 (Winner bay golding by Strong Gale out of Enchable Line united by Mrs M Revolvy of Samburn to-Mrs M B Scholey). Total 1200, 1150, 1150 £130. Dual Forocast, £12.70 CSF £20.45

A RECORD number of 23 Hurdle on Saturday - heading the list of 55 on 12st. Indeed, British-trained horses fill the

> resented by Once More For a grand weight," said the Saltburn handler. "My son Keith is keen to go over there. He's the sort of horse who likes to get into a bit of trouble, so the race should suit him. We have not fi-Naughton could ride."

with Ian Balding's Grey Shot - vocat 14-1 Nomanic, Snow Dragon, 15-1 Desecond to Relkeel in the Bula coupage, Finnegan's Hollow, Khairabar Polar Prospect, Sharpical, 20-1 bar.

Also: 5-1 Cheens Brigade, 12-1 Buffs Boy, 14-1 Sister Gale (4th), 25-1 Tall Tale, 33-1 Leap in The Dark (5th), 100-1 Car-

1. KRIS GREEN _____R Supple 11-2 2. Dan de Man _____T Siddall 5-2 fav

Also: 5-1 Just Lizzie (4th), 11-2 Rallegio (6th), 8-1 Reverse Charge, 14-1 Gaetic Probe, Polar King (5th), 20-1 Sounds Devi-

9 ran. 8 shi-hd, 4, 31/2, 6 (Winner chest-

PLUMPTON

2. Mr Frangipani 3. Glenbower

3. Exalted

RESULTS

12.20: [2m 3yo novice hurdle) 1. RAJATI _____T Eley 9-2 2. Olsco Tex _____F Leahy 7-2 it fav 3. Wynbury Flyer ____C O'Dwyer 16-1 Also: 7-2 if fav Kings Hussar (4th), 4-1 Noc-turne (6th), 10-1 Second Term, 12-1 Hiding Place, 33-1 Always Trying, 33-1 Asprilla, 33-1 Happy Days (5th).

9 ran. 5. 13, 1. 8. (Winner bay gelding by Hawkster out at Massy Imp, trained by L Lungo at Cerrutherstown for Mes S Blurnberg). Tote: £230; £140, £200, £170, DF: £1960, CSF: £1186. 3.20: (2m handicap hurdle)

Also: 10-1 Chef Wardance (4th), H-1 High Pyrenees, 50-1 Billy Nomaire, Chan Line, Laureniuler (5th), 66-1 Tol Me Another, 100-1 Awash, Broadcast, She's All Heart (6th), The Lambton Worm, 200-1 Windyedge.

> Jackpot: £151100 Placepot: £1080 Quadpot: £850 Place 6: \$1455. Place 5: \$616

Theavy patches in home straight) 1.00: 1. SANTABLESS IN Withmanson) 8-11 fav: 2. Quetal 12-1, 3. Limit The Damage 25-1 12 ran. 11, 3.5. (M Pitman, Upper Lambourn) Total: \$190; \$140, \$230, \$360, DF: \$230, \$357, \$35 RICHARD EDMONDSON 1.30: 1. SHANAGORE WARRIOR (Chris Webb) 33-1, 2. Tremailt 12-8 fax; 3. Strong Stuff 12-1 10 ran, 11/4, 10 (S Metor, Swin-

don) Tote: C4560: C520, C140, C200, DF C3900 CSF C8348, Tricast, C67467. 2.00: 1. KILMINGTON (P Hide) 15-2, 2. Jurassic Classic 20-1; 3. Miss Diskin 5-1. 7 ran. 6-4 lav Grosvenor (4th) 8, 10, (J G4 5) ford, Findoni Tota; £640; £220, £450. DF: 2-30: 1. SADLER'S SECRET (A P McCoy) 5-2: 2. Kpolo 25-1; 3. Ghoot Path 25-1 10 ran. 4-7 lav Bhutan (pulled up). 16.4 (M Ppe. Walington) Total: 1310: \$110, \$310, \$250. DF: 55750 CSF: \$4949.

3.00: 1. POTENTATE (A P McCoy) 5-6 fav: 2. Royal Toast 11-10; 3. Salisong 50-1 3 ran. 14, 4 (M Pipe, Wellington) Tota: £203 DF: £160 CSF; £201

3.30: 1, NESSUN DORO (Crirs Webb) 3-1; 2. Oorlabay 12-1; 3. August Tweltih 3-1 7 ran. 15-8 for Fridolin (bulled up), 2%, 8. (S Molior, Swindom) Toles: \$4.20; \$130, \$480, \$09; \$20.70, \$255; \$3182. Placepot: £148080 Guadpot: £7730 Place 5: £823.99 Place 5: £48603.

THE INDEPENDENT **RACING SERVICES** $0891\ 261\ +$ LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS HEREFORD 971 981 FOLKESTONE 972 982 MUSSELBURGH 973 983 ALL COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970

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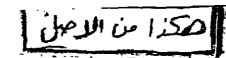
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CAR PARK Control of Street The Park At Subsey from Apr

TO STANCE YOU 45 GOOD LUCK HEARTS A H Dy in a constant and seed 2m 48

CORP. FOR VERDICT



Giants stand tall to end Broncos' run

IT HAS been a weekend of celebration around the National Football League, but in Denver the champagne has left a particularly nasty aftertasts. The Broncos finally lost their unbeaten record, losing 20-16 to the New York Giants in the shock result of the year.

Having won their previous 13 games, Denver were just three New York Jets, a result which outings away from a perfect put the Jets into the play-offs. season - the only team ever to have achieved that feat were the Miami Dolphins in 1972.

When the running back Terrell Davis gave Broncos the lead with a 27-yard touchdown run with less than four minutes remaining, it looked as if they had survived again. The Giants' quarterback. Kent Graham, ad other ideas, driving his side 86 yards in six plays, capago, admitted that he had been ping the effort with a 37-yard touchdown to Amani Toomer carried all before them this with just 48 seconds remaining.

have won it, but on the last play Broncos are never out of it," he of the game John Elway's desperation pass into the end zone fell incomplete, ending Den- undefeated, and makes me ver's winning streak at 18 con- even prouder of our team's acsecutive games. Meanwhile, a complishments."

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

BY NICK HALLING

group of former players and coaches from the 1972 Dolphins had convened at Pro Player stadium, where the 1998 Miami vintage were losing 21-16 to the

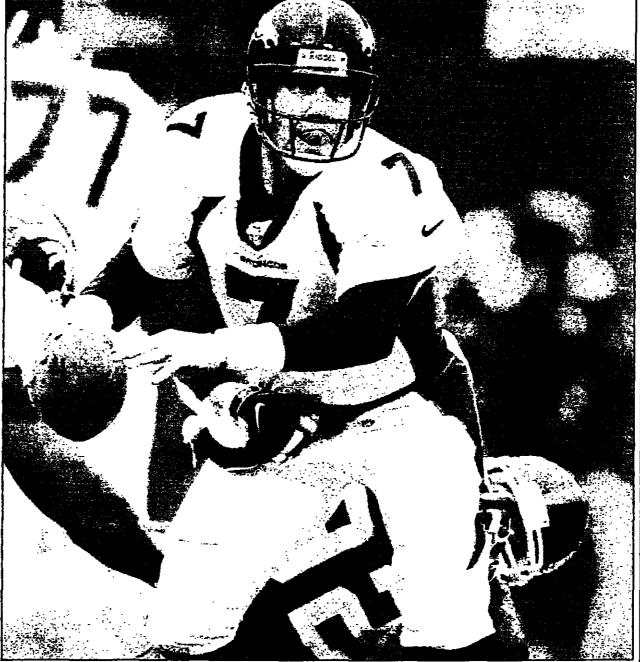
Ironically, New York's other team were the toast of South Florida. "This is one of the sweetest bottles of champagne I've ever had," said the linebacker Nick Buoniconti on hearing of Denver's demise. "It's been chilling for 15 weeks."

The former Miami head coach Don Shula, architect of the perfect season 28 years a worried man as the Broncos year. "Any time John Elway has Even then, the Broncos could the ball with a little time left, the said. "Their loss just underscores how difficult it is to go

The Broncos have looked less than impressive over the last three weeks as the pressure has intensified, but their coach, Mike Shanahan, believes this reverse may work in their favour. We have not been playing like we did earlier in the season," he said. "Hopefully this game will be a wake-up call

Corks may also have been popping in Baltimore, where the Minnesota Vikings overcame the Ravens 38-28 in a game which saw three kick-offs returned for touchdowns in the first quarter alone, a new NFL record. The Vikings' Randy Moss caught another touchdown, his 15th of the campaign, and also established a new rookie record for receiving

yardage in a season. At the other end of the age scale, the Vikings 39-year-old kicker, Gary Anderson, successfully converted six field goals, thereby establishing a new league record by landing 34 in succession. The veteran South African has not missed a kick all year.



Standings, Digest, page 23 John Elway, the Denver Broncos quarterback, feels the heat of the New York Giants defense

Fareham seven points clear

FAREHAM MOVE into the South Premier mid-season break seven points ahead of the pack BY BILL COLWILL of Wimbledon, Winchester and Beckenham although the Kent as the teams went into the inclub have two games in hand, writes Bill Colwill.

Against Winchester, after Tom Miller had given them the lead in the 15th minute, Fareham were hit by two penaltycorner strikes from Andy Watson before the evergreen Colin Bradbury scored the first of his two penalty-stroke goals ond place with a creditable 5-1

terval on terms. Fifteen minutes into the second half Bradbury gave his side the lead, but Winchester were back on terms through Richard Penrose before Jim Moseley struck the winner with a powerful drag flick at a penalty corner.

Wimbledon moved into sec-

win against Old Whitgiftians. Paul Giles scored twice, with one each coming from John Neal, David Alford and Gareth

The surprise result of the day was the 4-1 home defeat of Beckenham by Maidenhead.

In the Premier Holidays East League, Cambridge University suffered their second successive defeat, going down 4-3 to Peterborough Town. They now head Ipswich and Peterborough on goal difference.

Robinsons lead in the West of England and South Wales Premier from Bath Buccaneers, whom they beat 4-2.

There was also a change of leadership in the DTZ Midland Premier, in which Edgbaston beat Shrewsbury 2-1 and moved above Harborne, who were held to a goalless draw at Hampton in Arden.

In the North, Formby were held to a 2-2 draw by Southport but retain the lead a point ahead of Sheffield Bankers.

Panthers find form

NOTTINGHAM PANTHERS will be looking to round off an encouraging month by making further inroads in their quest for Sekonda Superleague success.

Buoyant after their Benson & Hedges Cup triumph over Ayr Scottish Eagles, Panthers stamped their authority on the Grand Slam champions with a crushing 4-0 league win in Nottingham at the weekend.

Another victory, at home to Bracknell Bees, sandwiched between the Ayr results also put pension. But they have rein-

Panthers back on track in the Superleague after three defeats in five had seen them fall off the pace. Mike Blaisdell's men head for ailing London Knights before visiting Sheffield Knights have managed just

ICE HOCKEY

one win in the last 11 matches and will again be without their coach, Jim Fuyarchuk, who completes a two-match sus-

forced their injury-hit defence with the signing of Martin Krainz, the 31-year-old former Olympian, who spent the last four seasons with the Austrian club Klagenfurt.

Kingston Hawks hope to raise £250,000 when they become the second British side to float on the stock market. The Hawks launched on the OFEX market vesterday with shares costing 20p and the club needs a minimum £164,000 take-up for the float to be successful.

Britain adds to pressure on IOC

BRITISH OLYMPIC officials have appealed to the International Olympic Committee to punish agents found guilty of vote-buying in bids to stage the Games.

A senior IOC executive member Marc Hodler, 80. shocked the Olympic movement at the weekend when he claimed four "agents" - including one IOC member - had been involved in vote-buying over the past 10 years. He cited alleged irregularities in the elections of at least four Olympic cities - Atlanta, Nagano, Sydney and Salt Lake. The British Olympic Asso-

ciation reacted by supporting the opinion of the IOC president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, that all aspects to future bidding must be out in the open.

"The British Olympic Association believes that the bidding process should be transparent and supports the view of Juan Antonio Samaranch that those transgressing the regulations should be dealt with.

Hodler claims he has not slept since making his bribery allegations. Hodler repeated his vote-buying charges and claimed Salt Lake City had been "blackmailed" during its successful bid for the 2002 Winter Games. 'These have been the worst days I have had in my long sport's career." Hodler said.

Samaranch has ruled out any possibility of taking the 2002 Winter Olympics away from Salt Lake City, but added that the current investigation involved Salt Lake because it was the only case with documented evidence, "If there is other proof, we will open other cases," Samaranch said.

Sydney 2000 officials yesterday distanced themselves from the allegations.

An Australian IOC executive board member, Kevan Gosper. told a press conference: "The issue about Sydney is dead as far as I am concerned. I was on the bidding committee and we were never involved in any bribery or corruption. No one ever approached me and I don't know any of my colleagues who were either," he said.

HEREFORD

HYPERION

12.40 Dante's Gold 1.10 Berkeley Frontier 1.40 Hangem Out To Dry (nb) 2.10 Yankie Lord 2.40 My Legal Eagle 3.10 St Mellion Drive 3.40 Rake Hey

GOING: Good to Soft. Right-hand course with 300yd run-in.
 Course is N of city on A49. Hereford station 1m. ADMISSION: Dub \$13; Tattensalis \$10; Course Enclosure £5. Accompanied under 16s tree all enclosures. CAR PARK: Free. under-16s tree all enclos

FVE-YEAR STATISTICS

GADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 37-102 (36.3%), N Twiston-lavies 22-102 (21.6%), P Hobbs 12-66 (18.2%), K Belley 12-67 (179%). ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 30-100 (30%), C Liewellyn 23-97 (23.7%), C Maude 11-43 (25.5%), R Dunwoody 11-44 (25%).

FAVOURITES: 204 wms in 515 races (39.6%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Premier Bay (340), Team Project

12.40 COMFREY MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS F) (DIV I) \$3,500 added 3m 1f 110yds 1 2221/3 ASK ANTONY (25) P Nichola 8 ti 5 ______ J Tizzard
2 53006 CORN EXCHANGE (12) G Yardey to 11 5 ______ Y Statlary
3 0290- DANTE'S GOLD (307) C Egerton 7 ti 5 ______ A P McCoy
4 0PPQP FAIR HAUL (54) P Ritchers? 7 ti 5 ______ A P McCoy
5 22-52 NORY COASTER (N2) (31) B De Haar? 7 ti 5 _____ C Uswelly to
6 06/24 LOTHAN COMMANDER (18) D McCox 6 ti 5 _____ S Wymne V
7 15/PP LOUGH LEN SPIRT (313) McCox 6 ti 5 _____ S Wymne V
8 6F-0 THE HAPPY MONARCH (51) Mrs J Pirmen 6 ti 5 ____ D Lealey
9 52/ TROUBLE A McDo (55) K Balley 7 ti 5 _____ N Williamson
- 8 declared SETTING: 4-5 Ask Antony, 5-1 Nory Coaster, 11-2 Dante's Gold, 13-2 LothCommunication, 10-1 The Happy Monarch, 11-1 Trouble Ahead, 25-1 ComLechange, 33-1 others

FORM VERDICT ing accidents, this should go to ASK ANTONY, who was bought indepent connections for 15,000 gms after bolting up in a long-ance point in 1997. He shaped well on his belated reappear1.10 CLOVES NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) \$2,500 added 2m 3f 110yds

(CLASS F) £2,500 added 2m 3f 110yds

1 2033- BEEFY NOVA (224) N Twicton-Davies 6 m © C Llewellyn
2 20534 WIN THE TOSS (12) R Stronge 6 to 13... Mr S Stronge (7)
4 4300 CAROLS DREAM (89) M Primar 6 to 10 ... L Corcorne (7)
4 23004 GRANEY BELL (11) P Hayward 7 to 5....... A P McCoy
5 430-P4 PARDAN (11) B Paling 4 to 3...... W Marston
6 400-0 STRONGDANA (537) P Hobbs 5 to 3..... R Widger (5)
7 -05002 THE BOOZING BRIEF (14) Miss C Dyson 5 to 3Miss C Dyson
8 000-03 HYDDEMILLA (10) Mr 7 PRIMOR 8 to 0...... A Magaire
9 400-69 BERKELE PROMTIER (331) N Geselve 5 to 0...... A Languire
10 0-F305 CRAZY CRUSADER (29) D Gendolo 6 to 0...... S Wynne
11 -3P023 MARCNID (12) JD Giles 7 to 0....... Mr A Charles-Jones
12 069-R KYLE DAVID (75) F JODER 6 to 0........ R Format
13 023P-0 CHARLIE CHANG (11) B Llewellyn 5 to 0....... R Johnson
14 PIOD- TREER BRIGHT (241) T Well 9 to 0....... R Johnson
15 500-00 PRECKOUS ISLAMD (10) J Pickerng 5 to 0....... Gary Lyons
Marimum weight: Total Two handless weighter Hydernille & Benkley Fronher 93 12bb, Cray Crusader 93 10b, Markind 95 93b, Kyle David, Cherlie
Chang& Tiger Bright 94 7h, Pracous Island 93 6b, Kyle David, Cherlie
Chang& Tiger Bright 94 7h, Pracous Island 93 6b, Kyle David, Cherlie

Changs Tiger Bright 9st 7th, Procous Island Sct 6th.
BETTING: 9-1 Beety Novs, 6-1 Genaby Bell, 7-1 The Boozing Brief, 6-1
Win The Toss, Mankind, 10-1 Carol's Dresm, Pardam, Hyderdilla, 12-1

FORM VERDICT

The top weight opart, a low-grade attain BEEFY NOVA showed ability in decent company as a newcomer last season, and is the type to do better in time. He can give the weight to once tair Grantby Belt.

1.40 CARAWAY NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 04-64F COMMANCHE HERO (14) R Doint 5 11 9 N Williamson
P4/43 MELLING (15) R Hodges 7 11 8 J Harris (5)
5230-1 REACH THE CLOUDS (15) (D) J Upson 6 11 7 J Supple

FORM VERDICT

Some unknown quantities over lences, but they could have their work cut out to best REACH THE CLOUDS, who clocked a spent time at Folkestone (Hang'ern Out To Dry held) and is open to improvement. Advance East is capable of upsetting calculations. tions if the race is run to suit him

2.10 LAZY PUNTER'S BLACK BOOK HAND-ICAP CHASE (F) £4,500 added 2m 3f

PPCY VANNE LORD (569 (8F) S Shenood 6 12 0 ... 6 Bradley
Phi-6 S SMAURISWRY (21) (D) D Gardolfo 8 11 2 ... S Wymne
3 F6/114 TWIN FALLS (25) (D) P Hobbs 7 11 12 ... A P McCoy
4 (OIPP MAURACHAS (248) M Sheppard 8 11 10 ... A P McCoy
5 23P/0 MANAMOUR (22) (CD) P Libe 11 0 11 ... A Maguire
6 25-056 JASON'S BOY (5) (CD) J M Bradley 8 10 10 ... R Johnson
7 000-25 ASTRAL INVASION (19) (C) T Well 7 10 9 ... Gary Lyons B
8 143-5 P FERWICK (42) (D) R Hodge 11 10 4 ... J Nerris (5)
9 4214-P RAGAMURF (22) (BF) P Hobbs 7 10 3 ... R Fearant
10 3P-P2 WBOG W WONDER (11) (D) M Bradley 8 10 0 ... N WHItmisten
11 26-P0 CAN'T SAY (27) J M Bradley 8 10 0 ... N WHItmisten
11 declared Affinituar (0st. True hicap weights: Word Wonder 9st (0b), Can't Say 9st 8b
BETTING: 3-1 Twin Falls, 4-1 Ragamuft, 9-2 Seymourswift, 8-1 Jason's
Boy, Whose Wonder, 10-1 Vanide Lord, Ferenck, 14-1 others

FORM VERDICT

YANKIE LORD, carrying the colours of Alex Ferguson, could be a blot on these weights, running off 102. He works out about the same horse as Prate Box on the second of two runs at Neas the season between last weight in th priore last, and the latter went on to score in style off 123 low early last season, it can pay to take a chance on Yaniue ess, and he may have most to fear from Séymourswift.

2.40 COWSLIP CONDITIONALS' SELLING HURDLE (G) \$2,000 added 2m 1f

BETTING: 7-4 My Legal Eagle, 4-1 Obelos, 9-2 Dublin River, 9-1 Fastini FORM VERDICT

A poor race which may prove within the capabilities of DUBLIN RIVER, runner-up to the in-form Cadbury Castle in a similar even ere the weak before last. He is preferred to My Lagal Gagle, whose

3.10 COMFREY MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS F) (DIV II) £3,500 added 3m 1f 110yds

FORM VERDICT

A writtel match on paper between Saras Delight and ST MEL-LION DRIVE. The latter would be receiving 3b in a handcap, but he tooked a decent prospect early in his career and latest evidence suggests that he may yet pick up

3.40 ROSEMARY HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) 53,750 added 2m 1f

021/0 NAHRI (423) (CD) J Macke 7 12 0 T Bay 15-58 PREMIER BAY (38) P Hobbs 4 ft ft A P McCoy B 345m RAKE HEY (11) (CD) D Bridgmass 4 ft ft M Griffiths 15) 68546 - STUDIOT THIRTY (265) (CD) F Dicker 6 ft D ... X Augustu (3) 08/0F0 CRAZY HORSE DANCER (12) F Jordan 10 ft 0 0 ... R Farrant B - 5 declared um weight: 10st. True hendicap weights: Studio Thiny 9ct 3th, Cran

Horse Denote Hat State Heaville Heaville Hard Carbon Hard State Heaville He FORM VERDICT

10 OCC54 CALLERAMNE (25) Mas H Day 9 10 2 D O'Sulliven (7) - 10 declared BETTING: 5-2 Reach The Clouds, 7-2 Heng'are Out To Dry, 9-2 Come On Penry, 6-1 Advance East, 13-2 Mathe Filing, 12-1 Communich Hero, 18-1 Melling, Tony's Mist, 25-1 others Rake Hey stands out, but will probably be over bet as a restalt, and the preference is to take a chance on STUDIO THIRTY'S finals. He won at the track first time out last season after a 10-month break. ance, and a smilar display should be good enough to take care 12.45 HEARTS FC SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £3,000 added 2m MUSSELBURGH

HYPERION

12.15 Farceur Du Mesnii 12.45 Weish Mountain 1.20 Young Tomo 1.50 Loveman 2.20 Adamatic 2.50 MA BARNICLE (nap) 3.20 Hunting Stane

GOING: Good to Firm (Good in places).

| Right-hand ovel course with tight turns.
| Course is 5m E of Edinburgh on A1. Bus link from Edinburgh.
| James of Sm. E of Edinburgh on A1. Bus link from Edinburgh.
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12.15 GOOD LUCK HEARTS & HIBS IN 99' MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV I) £3,000 added 2m 4f

FORM VERDICT

Rocheburg has been knoding on the door at this level and should go well, our may have caught a sarter in FARGEUR DU MESNIL. This 5yo was it useful performer on the Flat in France and has the potential to be a cut above this grade over hurdles despite his above.

FORM VERDICT A tricky selling handcap. Ley The Blame, Ruber and Calibury all not well fast time and have claims, but preference is for TABRIZ, who has the understed Russ Gentity on board for the first time.

1.20 BILLY BROWN & PETER HOUSTON NOVICE CHASE (E) £4,000 added 3m 1 65-14 COMMANDER GLEN 289 (C) M Harmond 6 11 5 JB Harding
2 1914/3 MR CAVALLO (31) MSs L Raced 6 11 5 JB Harding
3 235-PP GREENFINCH (CAN) (14) F Murtoph 7 10 12 JB McGardt
4 5 TM A BARGARN (19) N Richerts 6 10 12 JB A Diobbin
5 50F-800 (KEEP CLEAR (13) C Graft 8 10 2 JB A Diobbin
6 12/PP2 LAGEN BRUGE (18) (D) D Moffett 9 10 12 JB Life
7 P-00 OUR FRANKE (80) D Lamb 6 10 12 JB Life
9 161-24 VOUNG TOMO (25) (C) (EP) JH JONSON 6 10 12 JB Carbon
10 FLAD-P SPRINGLEA TOMOR (25) R Nison 5 10 1 JB Corbon
10 FLAD-P SPRINGLEA TOMOR (25) R Nison 5 10 1 JB Corbon
BETTING: 5-4 Young Tomo, 9-2 Commander Glen, 5-1 Lagen Bridge, 6-1
1 Mr Cavallo, 10-1 fm A Bargain, 16 Keep Clear, TriggerBab, 33 others

FORM VERDICT

A modest novice chase which can go to YOUNG TOMO, a course remner over hundles have Lagen, Bridge was the best hundler of this bunch and has claims at this level but his cheang efforts are not been convincing. Commender Gion tools best of the remainder.

1.50 GOOD LUCK HEARTS & HIBS MAID-EN HURDLE (E) (DIV II) £3,000 2m 4f

Little strength in depth and an obvious chance for LOVEMAN to tufil the promise he showed when runnerup on his recent hur-ding debut at Leliester. The exposed Golden Thunderbolt and bumper winner Grimaldi Led Look the only conceivable dangers.

FORM VERDICT

£6,000 added 2m 4f

2.20 COLIN CAMERON FIRST MINUTE GOAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D)

PF2:22 PENTLANDS FLYER (24) (DJ JH Juhnson 7 16 - P Carberry
-21UA MASTER BAVARD (36)(C) P Monterfs 10 10 13
-21UA MASTER BAVARD (36)(C) P Monterfs 10 10 13
- Mr M Brackwine (3)
2LP-21 ADAMATIC (24) (C) R Alex 7 10 12
- B Storey
- 65533 SALEM BEACH (66)(CD) M Todhurez 6 10 0C McCommick (6)
- 7 declared -Minmum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Salem Beach Rct 2tb. BETTING: 5-2 Pentlands Phys., 7-2 Adametic, 5-1 Wise Advice, Master Bavard, 6-1 Montrave, 8-1 Political Tower, 16-1 Salem Beach

FORM VERDICT This C&D should be ideal for PENTLANDS FLYER, who will ap precise this return to a right-handed track judged on the way he jumped to the right at Antiree last time. Montrave did not show enough on his reappearance to suggest a hal-trick of wins in this event was firely and Caterick winns Adamatic hoiss a bigger threat

2.50 STEPHANE ADAM WINNING GOAL AMATEURS HANDICAP CHASE (F) £4,000 added 2m

sc Crest 99: 120: BETTING: 2-1 Churenty's Saga, 9-2 Somerby, 6-1 Titaal, 8-1 Marble Man, Classic Crest, 18-1 Ma Barnicle, 16-1 North Tipp, Far East, 20-1 others FORM VERDICT

A dismal hendicap. Chummy's Saga stands out on recent form

but there has to be a question mark about him on today's ground

but there has to be a question mank about nim on today is ground and top weight MARIBLE MAN may give him a run for smorey Mark Pells gelding has a 12th pull for just over a 20 beating by the hat-trick seeking favourite at Sedgefield lest month and seems to be gradually running into form. 3.20 STEVIE FULTON CAPTAIN ON THE DAY HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 3m

-3044 COTTISTOWN BOY (14) (D) (BF) Mrs S Brachume 7 11 10 216-3 MY SHENANDOAH (18) (C) J H Johnson 7 11 8. P Carberry 64031 HUNTING SLANE (24) C Grant 6 ft 3 R Supple 2011 MARY'S FEELINGS (19) (C) M Hammond 7 ft 3 B Handing 13-545 CHARITY CRUSADER (47) (D) Mas M Reveloy 7 11 2P Noven E -35P56 COMMANCHE CREEK (14) (D) A Dicken 8 10 9. ... R Genity 252-0 XINDA GROOVY (24) (D) I Park 9 10 7 N Smith 61P-P4 MASTER OF THE ROCK (24) (CD) J Macker 9 10 4

- 12 declared
Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Pontevedra 9st 13th

BETTING: 7-2 Hunding Slane, 9-2 Cottatown Boy, 5-1 My Shenandoch,
6-1 Mary's Feelings, 7-1 Charity Crusader, 10-1 Master Of The Rock, 121 Planning Gain, 14-1 others

FORM VERDICT

Today's ground should be deal for HUNTING SLANE, who won with far more in hand than the official 31 margin at Catterick last moreh. Course specialist My Shenandosh and his Caristic con-queror Mary's Featings clearly have to be respected, while his ribb rise in the weights at the overright stage leaves Pontaverter (who should appreciate this track) with a real chance if she can

1999	CHAMPION	HURD	LE (2m	110yd
198 (62 16 1)	Coral	Win Hiji	Lachroles	Stanle
abrao (A P Oibnenini)		5-4	11-10	11-1

16-1 Slowing Wind IN Pipel Grey Shot | Saudro 20-1 Relikoel (D Nicholson) **16-1** Lady Cricket (11 Pipe way a quarter the colos, pieces 1 2, 3 (Chellenham, Tuesday 16 Marc

ANTE-POST UPDATE

Horse (Traner)	Coral	Yim H	Lackrokes	Stanley	Total
Florida Pearl (LY Livers In)	41	41	7.2	7.2	94
See More Business (F Nictols)	8-1	7-1	7-1	B-1	7-1
Cyfor Maffa iM ripei	10-1	B-1	7.1	9-1	10-1
Dorans Pride (M Houspan Vi)	2-1	12-1	E 1	E -1	14-1
Sumy Say (S Sherwood)	T2·1	12-1	1D-1	10-1	14-1
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Teeton IAB (IASS V V/Sectos)	14-1	14-1	14-1	14-1	16-1
Unginkable Boxer (LI Pipel	14-1	14-1	14.1	16-1	14-1
Samply Dashing (T Exstatly)	Б1	15-1	20-1	16 -1	12:1
Escariefique (D Natrolson)	141	14-1	25-1	30-1	16-1

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Third Test: Folly of picking one man as captain, wicketkeeper and key batsman ruthlessly exposed | Woodward

Stewart in spin as England unravel

TO MOST, it might seem like an elementary mistake, but England have been trying to beat Australia by breaking long-held mathematical theory. Alec Stewart is the guinea pig in question as England's selectors try to prove that three goes into one cleanly and without compromise.

On the evidence of this Ashes tour, it patently does not and Stewart's failure to bat at No 4, as England battled to save the third Test, was a tacit admission that his tripartite role as captain, wicketkeeper and top-order hatsman, has become a burden too

Stewart, who eventually came in at No 6, albeit after the nightwatchman, Dean Headley, had been dismissed in the penultimate over of the fourth day's play, has not scored anything like his usual quota of Test runs this series

It is a shortfall that has gone some way to ensuring that England's totals have been less than competitive. In turn, his "follow me lads" style of captaincy, which relies almost exclusively on leading by example, has also suffered

It is difficult to captain when worries about your own form keep niggling away, and at times England's on-field cricket has lacked Test match intensity. Remember, it was Michael Atherton's lack of form, rather than England's performances, that persuaded him to resign the captaincy in the West Indies last March.

Predictably, England were playing the matter down and David Lloyd, the team coach, insisted that Stewart had simply dropped down the order to have a little bit longer

to recover from keeping wicket.
"It's been a cumulative thing," said Lloyd. "The incredible heat on the first day has caught up with everyone and dropping down one gave Alec a bit more breathing space after the demands of keeping

On he face of it, this appears to be a reasonable explanation, though it also sounds like the thin end of the wedge, especially as Australia only batted until 20 minutes after lunch.

Cricket is a game played largely in the mind, though, and the Australians viewed his non-appearance quite differently. "We definitely saw it as a psychological point to us when Mark Ramprakash came in at four," said Michael Slater, who had earlier scored his 10th Test century. "It's good for us when we see a guy, who has been batting four all series.

THE MOST informative and, for

England, perhaps the most chilling

event on this fourth day in Adelaide,

was the release of the names to rep-

resent an Australian XI against

England just before Christmas in

Hobart. It is a side which would have

the better of the current England

team in a Test match and perfectly

illustrates the strength of Australian

both made significant contributions

to Australia's success in England in

1997. Michael Bevan, Stuart Law and

Darren Lehmann, who seems to be

the favourite to become Australia's

next long-term captain, have all

made a considerable impact for

their country and in county cricket

Mike Kasprowicz, Paul Reiffel.

Gavin Robertson and Brendon Ju-

lian have all played Test cricket. The

Greg Blewett and Matthew Elliott

By DEREK PRINGLE in Adelaide

Australia 391 & 278-5 dec England 227 & 122-4

For Stewart, the juggling of three roles has become something of a vicious circle. Never at his best starting against spin. Stewart is finding that by batting in the middleorder, he is facing spinners the moment he comes to the crease.

Australia do their homework well and he has fallen to spin three times in his last five innings, and that includes Perth where the slow bowlers barely got an outing. Indeed it was in the first innings there. where he scored a breezy 38, that Stewart last looked his old self.

Playing Australia is challenging enough without having three high profile jobs demanding an increasing amount of effort. Stewart best serves England when he opens the innings, which means that either 'keeping or the captaincy, perhaps both, must go.

Stewart has never showed great tactical astuteness as a captain and there have been times when watching England - as when Ramprakash bowled a long aimless spell on Sunday - has been like watching a county floundering in mid-table.

Of course Australia, even without Shane Warne, are a truly great side, and opponents generally find themlves under intense pressure, particularly as the end of the game approaches.

That was certainly been the case in Adelaide when Slater and Justin Langer resumed their partnership on the fourth morning. By his own admission Slater had been struggling the previous day. Apparently, the pitch, apart from taking spin, was also becoming more variable in bounce and scoring runs quickly has

That said, Slater appeared to have no problems dispatching the ren Gough, to the boundary. Gough eventually got his revenge, pyrrhic though it was, with a corking inswinging yorker to the instep.

sixth century against them in just 14 Tests. Mind you Langer, with his second significant score of the match appears to as well, and he added 52 before holing out to Peter Such, as he tried to force the pace.

The proportion of boos that greet-

BLOFELD

IN ADELAIDE

derstandably enough by Ian Healy,

and Cory Richards, the highly

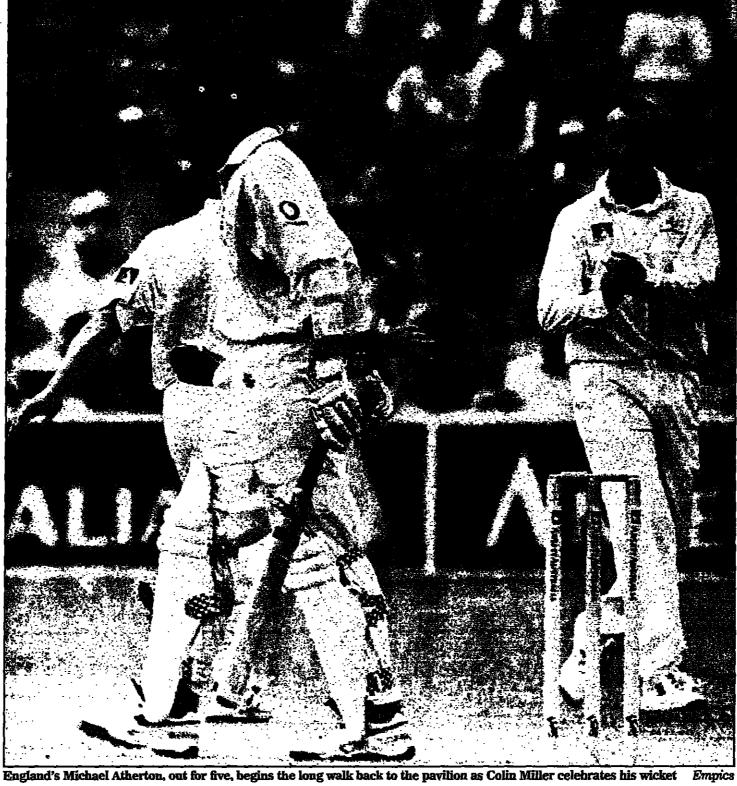
promising New South Wales bats-

cricketers trained in the most de-

manding of cricketing environ-

Places in the Australian side are

man. They are all battle-hardened



nings, definitely dwindled since his appearance on the first day. Back to his silky best, they had disappeared altogether by the time he reached his 50. But if that was a relief, the knowledge that he and Warne have both received summonses to attend the match-fixing inquiry in Lahore, is sure to have taken the gloss off things.

Mark Taylor is a cagey old soul, and he delayed his declaration until 2.19pm, when Australia were 442 runs ahead, a total of no particular significance other than being 126 runs in excess of the highest-ever first two balls of the day from Dar- winning fourth innings score to have been made bere.

Taylor does not like to declare during a break, as he feels opponents, particularly the opening bats-Slater clearly enjoys playing men, can prepare better. Instead he against England and this was his prefers to keep them on edge, unprefers to keep them on edge, uncertain when the moment to pad up will come. If it sounds like kidology, his record proves otherwise, and the openers, Atherton in particular, never looked comfortable, as England began their bid to survive the nine hours and 10 minutes of the

England face tough task in Hobart

a taste of life under the baggy green

cap and have then dropped out, work

desperately hard to get back, not

least because of the financial re-

playing their hearts out in each

round of Sheffield Shield matches.

The batsmen constantly pile up

runs knowing that failure will count

against them in their endless strug-

The bowlers think likewise, and

it makes certain that Shield cricket

remains the most testing and suc-

cessful of breeding grounds. Aus-

tralia's back-up cricketers are

hungry for success and every in-

nings is a significant opportunity

Sheffield Shield and the players

come into their State sides through

There are six teams in the

The players who go to Hobart are

wards that come with it.

gle to fight their way back.

which must not be wasted.

Gilchrist, who has been kept out un- highly sought after and most jeal- each state. In their minds, State cipal idea behind the two divisions

With more the odd ball keeping low from the pacemen, it was Mark Butcher, edging a cut shot in the 13th over, who was first to go. According to the players, this pitch is the kind where if you get one wicket, you can easily pick up two or three.

As if to prove the point, Atherton followed in the next over, popping up a simple catch to Mark Waugh at silly point as Colin Miller suddenly got the ball to bounce. Normally a good technician with the softest of hands against spin, the steepness of the bounce clearly surprised Atherton, who labbed if ou the splice to Waugh.

At that juncture it should have been Stewart, though with Miller on, it was not imprudent that Ramprakash came out to join Nasser Hussain. The pair have so far been England's best batsmen and when they were together in the first innings, adding their hundred partnership, England at least looked as if they were competing.

The same was also true in the secand innings, when, despite the pressure, they were able to mullify Stuart MacGill spinning the ball vast dis-

The counties in England have just

taken a huge step by voting for two

divisions from the year 2000. The dan-

ger is that it will be allowed to be-

come a step sideways rather than a

step forwards. The will to succeed

has to be there; county cricket in its

new guise must not be allowed to es-

tablish a comfort level for mediocrity.

clubs in the lower division are to re-

ceive as big a share in the annual fi-

nancial handout from the England

Cricket Board as those in the top di-

vision. This will establish a comfort

level and may blunt the incentive for

both the clubs and the individuals to

This presumably was done to help the less successful counties

agree to support the two-tier system

when it came to the recent vote at

better themselves.

The danger is there because the

the way to Test cricket.

Perhaps because of the threat posed by MacGill - he is 10 times the bowler who sent down all those full tosses three weeks ago in the first innings at the Gabba - Hussain took his eye off Miller.

Altering his attack from the Northern End to around the wicket, Miller ran one past Hussain's outside edge before turning a quicker one into his pads. It did not spin much, just enough to ensure that Hussain, who has had a spate of poor decisions in recent months, could have no quibbles other than to wonder wilv he missed it.

With five minutes of play remaining, Stewart sent in Headley as nightwatchman. Off the mark with an edge for two off the fourth ball, Headley should really have stayed at the other end to protect Ramprakash from MacGill.

As it was, he came back to face Miller, who promptly had him caught by Mark Waugh at silly point off pad and glove. It was at that point, with England on 122 for 4, that Stewart came in, his role not so much defined by the selectors, as by the mountain

is first to concentrate excellence in

the top division and then to stimu-

late players in the lower division to

do all they can to lift themselves up

At first, there are apparently not

going to be significant changes to the

registration rule to prevent an out-

and-out transfer system coming

into operation. But if the object re-

ally is to produce a more competi-

tive England side, a proper transfer

The second division, giving three counties the chance of promotion

each year, would then also be acting

as a feeder league to the top division.

The counties have agreed to start on

the process of change, but the Aus-

tralian example shows that there are

more steps to be taken before Eng-

land is going to be able to produce

tough and hardened cricketers who

are good enough to play the cricket

which will one day see the return of

system would only help.

the ladder

SCOREBOARD Fourth day; Australia won toss AUSTRALIA - First Innings 391 (J L Langer 179no, S R Waugh 59, M A Taylor 59; D W

AUSTRALIA - Second Inning J L Langer c sub (B C Hollioake) b Such 52 227 min, 183 bolls, 2 fours 42 min, 29 balls, 1 four fi A Healy not out

20 min. 13 balls

1), Such 29-5-66-2 (w1) (8-1-14-1 6-2-7-0 2-0-11-0 13-2-34-1), Ramprakash 12-1-27-0 (1-1-0-0 10-0-25-0 1-0-2-0), Hick Progress: Taind day: 50: 77 min, 18.3 overs. Tea: 75-1 (Slater 30, Langer 7) 30 overs. Restart delayed after tea until 4.12pm, 100: 166 mins, 43.1 overs. 150: 242 min, 59.4

overs. Close 150-1 (Slater 74, Langer 34) 60 overs. Fourth day: 200: 293 min. 72. 4 overs. 250: 357 min. 86.2 overs. Langer 34) 4 (M Waugh 35, Ponting 8) 88 overs. Declaration at 2.19pm. Stater 50: 179 min. 124 talls, 3 fours. 1 stx. 100: 272 min. 184 balls, 8 fours. 1 stx. Langer 50: 224 min. 181 balls, 2 fours. M Waugh 50: 115 min. 75 balls.

ENGLAND - Second Innings M A Butcher c Healy to Fleming 50 min. 39 balls M A Atherton c M Waugh b Miller 57 min. 43 balls N Hussain Row b Miller ... 132 min, 97 balls, 4 fours M R Ramprakash not out........ 134 mis. 128 balls, 2 fours

D W Headley c M Waugh b Miller 2 3 min. 4 balls 4 min, 0 balls Extras (b3.lb4.nb5) ..

Total (for 4, 192 min, 51 overs)...... 122 Fall: 1-27 (Butcher). 2-31 (Atherton). 3-120 (Hussain). 4-122 (Headley). (Hussain), 4-122 (readey).

Bowling: McGrath 10-0-22-0 (nb4) (6-0-12-0 4-0-10-0), Fleming 14-2-40-1 (nb1) (5-0-13-0 3-0-12-1 6-2-15-0), Miller 13-1-36-3 (8-1-21-1 5-0-15-2), MacGill 12-4-14-0 (4-0-8-0 7-3-6-0 1-1-0-0), S Waugh

4-14-0 (4-0-8-0 7-3-0-0 1-1-0-0). > mange 2-1-3-0 (one spell). Progress: Pourth day: Rea: A7-2 (Hussain 11. Ramprakash 7) 18 overs, 50: 75 min. 18.5 overs, 100: 161 min. 43.2 overs, Umphres: 5 A Bucknor and 5 J Davis, TV Replay umphre: P M Angley, Match referee: J R Reid.

Sobers leads attack on 'irresponsible' West Indies

the Grade or District cricket in the First-Class Forum. But the prin-

ously guarded. Those who have had cricket is only the stepping stone on

CRACKS HAVE been evident in the make-up of West Indies cricket for sometime. Last weekend they be-

came gaping canyons. Humiliated inside three days by South Africa in the second Test in Port Elizabeth, West Indies are already 2-0 down in the five-match series and reaping the wrath of their countrymen at home. What will have stung the players even more were harsh words from two of the West Indies former greats who watched the sorry capitulation in

Colin Croft, once a member of

fast bowling attack alongside Andy Roberts, Joel Garner and Michael Holding, did not mince his words. This was as disgraceful a performance by a Test team as I have ever

Sir Garfield Sobers, the greatest player West Indies have ever produced, was equally curt. "They must remember that playing for West Indies is a privilege, not a right. Test cricket is all about accepting responsibility and this team is not doing that.

Only the ageing fast bowlers Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh

been unable to compensate for the inadequacies of the others. Even the captain, Brian Lara, holder of world records for the highest Test and firstclass scores, is failing to live up to his immense talent. As West Indies collapsed ignominiously for 141 in their second innings at Port Elizabeth, Lara top-scored with 39 from 49 balls but it was a mere cameo from a man who only recently was hailed as the greatest batsman in the

And Lara admits it himself, "You can't tell me that the Brian Lara we saw today is the Brian Lara of four

narine Chanderpaul - reliable people," he said. He refused to blame the pitch. "The West Indies team of the mid-Eighties, [Gordon] Greenidge and [Desmond] Haynes up front would have scored 500 on

it. It was fine." The second Test between Pakistan and Zimbabwe ended in a draw after fog prevented play on the final day in Lahore. "It's a big relief, but we would have liked to have had some cricket," said the Zimbabwe captain, Alistair Campbell, after the umpires called off play because of poor visibility following four in-

The Pakistan captain, Moin Khan, was disappointment at being denied a chance to level the series in which Zimbabwe are one up after a sevenwicket win in the first Test at Peshawar. The third and final Test starts at Faisalabad on Thursday.

In all 223 overs and 13 hours play were lost over the five days because of bad light and fog. On the fourth day Zimbabwe were 48 without loss in their second innings, trailing Pakistan by 94 runs, when bad light stopped play. Pakistan had declared their first innings on 325 for 9 in reply to Zimbabwe's 183. "We are really disappointed that weather destroyed our the perfect time."

efforts to win here," said Moin. There are fears that there will be similar visibility problems for the final Test.

Worcestershire's former England bowler Phil Newport is to retire at the end of next season to take up a career in teaching. The 36-yearold paceman will follow his former captain Tim Curtis on to the staff at Worcester Royal Grammar School from next autumn.

Newport, who has taken more than 800 first-class wickets, will teach geography as well as coaching the school's cricket team. He said: "This opportunity has come at

cool on Stransky's eligibility

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By Terry Cooper

CLIVE WOODWARD looks to have snubbed moves by South African Joel Stransky to make himself available for England - he becomes eligible from next September three years after his Springbok career ended. Stransky, who landed the historic drop-kick to win the World Cop for South Africa in 1995, last played a Test the following August. He qualifies through his grandparents.

However, the Leicester stand-off looks set to be disappointed. England coach Woodward said: "If I was asked whether I would choose him for World Cup 1999, the answer is ba-sically no. I would have to be very desperate to do so and I would chose him only with the greatest retuctance and with huge reservations. If I had to, it would be a very sad day for English rugby.

"But I would never say never to anything. There might actually come a time when there are no English stand-offs playing in the Pre-miership and then my hand might be forced, but I prefer to pick only English-qualified players who have not appeared for another country. You can't compare Joel's case with Mike Catt. Mike was not a pro rugby player when he came here. He qualified through parents and above all had not been capped by South

"We have more rugby players than any other country in the world and if we can't find stand-offs - or any other positions - with our own qualified players in the normal way then it will be a bad day for our game. Once we started going down the Stransky road we would easily find the English national team filled with older players who have finished Test careers in their own country and served the necessary qualifi-

Stransky said: "Until I became tware of the regulations I had some faint glimmer of hope that I might be recalled by South Africa. But in reality they are not going to pick me. I still have to check whether my grandparents really were English. I have to give the whole matter a lot of thought. It is a moral decision. I am South African, but the fact is I don't intend going back there in the

Alan Watkins, page 19

Westwood anticipates fiery Tiger in Boston

LEE WESTWOOD yesterday said he expects to see Tiger Woods breathing fire at next September's Ryder Cup. Westwood, receiving Europe's Golfer of the Year award, believes America's crushing Presidents Cup defeat in Australia this weekend will make them twice as determined to win back the Ryder Cup.

"I'm already looking forward to it immensely," said the 25-year-old from Worksop, celebrating a season during which he won seven times and picked up prize-money in excess of £1.6m. "They are going to be keen to stick it to us. They got a bit of a trouncing. There's nothing to compare with the Ryder Cup and I can't imagine what it will be like in Boston. There'll be thousands of Irish there for a start."

Never previously beaten by the International side - the Rest of the World minus Europe - the Ameri-cans were demolished 201/2-111/2 in Melbourne. Now Westwood would like to see Europe take on Greg Norman. Ernie Els and company. "I think there's room for it and I don't think it would devalue the Ryder Cup "he said "It's always nice to test yourself against the best and we don't have much match play."

Westwood has signed a three-year deal with clothing company Lyle and Scott. Without revealing figures, the chief executive. Robert Kimpton. said the contract was the biggest in the company's history. It could well be worth seven figures if Westwood starts winning majors. "His fearless determination and charming personality have been the perfect attributes for us." said Kimpton. "He was an inspired choice when we signed him up four years ago and we look forward to him realising all his ambitions."

Among Westwood's targets for 1999 is Woods' world No 1 spot - and he would like to thank the 22-yearold Californian for already helping him into the top 10.

"Tiger's arrival on the scene a couple of years ago gave me a kick up the backside. I knew we had to work hard otherwise he'd get away from us. I don't think I'm quite at his level yet, but all the time I'm learning and maturing.

THE INDEPENDENT Tuesday 15 December 1998

Graham targets bargain Draper

GEORGE GRAHAM is planning to sign the Aston Villa midfielder Mark Draper on a free transfer when his current deal runs out at the end of the sea-

Draper is out of John Gregory's Villa first team squad because of the protracted dispute over his future. He did not even make the 16 to face Arsenal on Sunday, Now Graham is confident of taking Draper to Tottenham when he can move for nothing next summer. The ් ර්s could even strike a commise deal and agree a knock-down fee in advance.

Graham, a long-time admirer of Draper, was keen on signing him for Leeds United when he was in charge there and the current Tottenham director of football. David Pleat, was his manager at Leicester.

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More good news for Graham is that David Ginola, who believes he has three to four more years of top-flight football in him, is set to see out his career in England, virtually ruling out a return to France. "Being realistic, I see my future in England and at Tottenham," he said yesterday. "The best French clubs have a youth polic. t's more interesting (for them] to follow a youngster," the 31-year-old Frenchman told

the sports daily L'Equipe.

Ginola was linked with a return to his former club Paris St Germain when Artur Jorge took over as coach from the sacked Alain Giresse in October. The speculation arose because Ginola enjoyed a good understanding with the Portuguese coach during his spell at PSG in the early 1990s.

Cinola, however, is enjoying his otball and says his family are also settied happily in London. The player, who it was an astonishing £33m and he originally thought might find himself out of favour with the pragmatic Graham, said: "We work very hard, especially de- joined us." fensively. It's something I have to force myself to do. But I've made progress and Graham has, maybe, been surprised.

"[We] can perhaps at last been waiting for over

BY ALAN NIXON

the past seven years. It's as motivating as the start at PSG." Promotion-chasing Bradford City want Newcastie United's forgotten man Philippe Albert. The Belgian centre-back is out of Ruud Gullit's immediate first team plans and is a free agent at the end of the season. The Bradford manager, Paul Jewell, wants to take Albert on loan to bolster his team in their ambitious bid for the Premier League. Gullit may be willing to let Albert leave and the final decision may rest with the ac-

complished centre-back Neil McCann last night promised to try to thrill the Rangers supporters the way the late Davie Cooper used to do. Cooper picked up 22 caps during his career and was revered at Ibrox for his speed and skill down the flanks.

McCann sealed a £1.6m move from Hearts yesterday and is widely seen as one of the old school of Scottish wingers. After signing a fourand-half-year contract, the 24year-old Scotland squad member revealed he was a huge fan of Cooper's. "He was always hero of mine," said McCann. "Hopefully I can get near to his achievements in

the game. McCann, who trained with the squad yesterday, could make his debut on Saturday against his former teammates at Tynecastle. He becomes the 10th player to be recruited by the Rangers manager, Dick Advocaat, since the

Advocaat's latest acquisition takes his spending spree to said today: "Neil is a very promising player, very quick and I am delighted he has

The South African finance and banking group, Spirit, are considering making a bid for the 68 per cent of Everton held by the former chairman, Peter give the [Spurs] crowd what Johnson, who resigned two weeks ago.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE



Under pressure: Louis van Gaal, the Barcelona coach (right), talks tactics with the striker Patrick Kluivert at training yesterday AP

Van Gaal on brink at Barcelona

SPAIN

LOUIS VAN GAAL, the Barcelona coach, was clinging on to his job by his finger nails last

A fourth successive Spanish Primera Division defeat against Villarreal on Sunday left Barcelona in 10th place in the league, nine points behind the leaders Real Mallorca. A 70,000-strong crowd waved white handkerchiefs in the traditional Catalan protest and chanted for Van Gaal and the club president, Josep Lluis Nunez, to go as another three points went begging, leaving noted smugly: "Fans call for the club in their worst position in the table for 19 years.

The Barcelona board were change of coach was sure to be on the agenda. Van Gaal, who has been under mounting criticism from press and public as results this term have gone from bad to worse, was under fire vesterday.

"Not even one day more."

fidence - that's the solution." His words, though, may have been too late.

A league record this season that reads played 14, won five and drawn four, lost five looks a long way short of title form, and Van Gaal may find that he has run out of friends.

THAILAND

screamed the headline in the Barcelona-based sports newspaper El Mundo Deportivo. while its Madrid rival, Marça, football tournament. heads to roll.

However, after watching his side crash to another humilidue to meet last night, and a ating home defeat, against a Villarreal side in their first season in the First Division, Van Gaal insisted he would not throw in the towel.

AROUND THE

WORLD

EDITED BY

RUPERT METCALF

"It's easy to say 'Van Gaal must go' but that isn't the solution," he said. "We need to keep calm and gain more con-

lost his temper at the error.

DESPITE BEING down to nine men, Thailand pulled off a brave extra-time 2-1 victory over South Korea in Bangkok yesterday to go through to a semi-final meeting with Kuwait in the Asian Games

China also made it through to face the favourites, Iran. who have brought their World Cup squad to Bangkok, but will do so without their English coach, Bob Houghton.

The former Bristol City manager was sent off for dissent yesterday and will be banned from the bench for the next game. China had already

sent off in the 68th minute for spitting at an assistant referee while he was being substituted. Later, as Houghton was trying to replace Huang Hong with just minutes to go in a 3-0 win, the North Korean fourth official, Kim Jong-sik, held up No 5 - Fan Zhiyi of Crystal Palace - and Houghton

had their striker, Hao Haidong,

Iran beat Uzbekistan 4-0 thanks to a hat-trick in the last 10 minutes from the Bayern Munich striker Ali Daei, and completed a line-up for tomorrow's semi-finals which was as expected - apart from the astonishing Thais.

They had a man sent off. took the lead against South Korea, had another man sent off conceded a late equaliser. then went into sudden-death extra time and won the game with a shot that produced the goal of the tournament.

Six minutes into the added period Sanor Longsawang rolled a free-kick to Thawat-

chai Damong-Ongtrak, who

was five yards in from the

touchline and 35 yards from

goal - but still found the net. "I'm elated," said Thailand's coach Peter Withe, in charge of the team for only four weeks before the tournament began and already a national hero. "I'm going to celebrate," the former Aston Villa and England striker said. "I could not have asked more from the players. I told them at the end of normal time we could still win this game. I told them, look, the Koreans are sitting down. We are standing up,

ready to play, they are not. We

can win.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Ahmad al-Saber of Kuwait, the head of the Olympic Council of Asia. said in Bangkok yesterday that there was growing support within the region for a boycott of the 2002 World Cup in protest at Asia's allocation of just two teams (apart from the joint hosts Japan and South Korea) at the finals.

Creatine given all-clear by IOC

DRUGS IN SPORT

BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

THE INTERNATIONAL Olympic Committee has no plans to ban the controversial food supplement, creatine, it was revealed yesterday.

The IOC decision, taken against a background of growing concern over the possible long-term side effects of taking the protein muscle-booster, was reached during an annual review of the list of banned substances and practices.

Prince Alexandre Merode, chairman of the IOC medical commission, said that creatine, a form of amino acid, should be regarded as a food. "We don't tell people that they

can't eat eggs or bread," he said. "Creatine is food, and there is no reason to ban it. You can't exaggerate, because it's not comparable to steroids." The doping sub-commission, which reported to the medical commission after considering what research has been done on creatine so far, was also swaved by a concern that any ban might unfairly penalise those competitors who had naturally high levels of the substance.

The IOC stance will not be regarded with surprise in the wider sporting community, although some will feel they have missed an opportunity to sound a warning note about the possible dangers of long-term use. or short-term abuse.

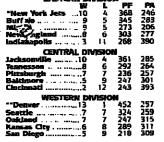
The medical commission of the British Olympic Association voted unanimously not to endorse creatine because of uncertainty about its possible long-term effects. Richard Budgett, the BOA doctor, emphasised the need for an education programme. "Athletes are so desperate to get an edge that they will ignore advice about recommended dosages," Budgett said.

In the United States, a survey of 75 top professional teams in American Football, baseball, basketball and ice hockey found that 21 actively opposed its use. Tampa Bay, of the NFL, have issued a five-point "position paper" which they have distributed to all their players.

The paper warns creatine may cause an electrolyte imbalance leading to cramps and fluid retention. It points out the lack of research and adds "any success will be commercially marketed by the food supplement industry as evidence of product efficacy to immature and impressionable youth. Such marketing undermines the efforts of our organisation to be responsible to our youth."

FOOTBALL

NFL: Buffalo 44 Oakland 21; Washington 28 Carolina 25; Green Bay 26 Chicago 20; Indianapolis 39 Cincinnal 25; Jennessee 16 Jacksomville 13; Adanta 27 New Orleans 17; New York Giants 20 Denver 16: Arizona 20 Philadelphia 17 (cr); St Louis 32 New England 18; Tampa Bay 16 Pittsburgh 3; Seattle 38 San Diego 17; Minnesota 38 Baltimore 28; Kansas City 20 Dallas 17; New York Jets 21 Miami 16. AMERICAN FOOTRALL CONFERENCE EASTERN DIVISION



Washington 9 Philadelphia 11 CENTRAL DIVISION 480 270 362 284 263 275 266 300 239 349 WESTERN DIVISA

BASEBALL The Toronto Blue Jays signed the right-handed starter Joey Hamilton from the San Diego Padres in a four-player deal announced on Sunday. The Blue Jays obtained the 28-year-old Hamilton for the right-handers Woody Williams and Carlos Almanara and Peter Fixed the whose Jacobs. outfielder, who was the club's firstround pick two years ago.

CRICKET

The weather-hit second Test be-tween Pakistan and Zimbabwe was abandoned as a draw after mist and fog prevented any play on the fifth and final day yester-day. Umpires Darrel Hair of Aus-tralia and Mian Aslam inspected the ground several times during the day before finally calling off play on their sixth inspection. The weather caused nearly 16 hours and 223 overs to be lost over the five-day game. The touring side. facing a deficit of 142 runs, were 48 for no wicket in their second innings at the close on Sunday. Pakistan made 325 for 9 declared reply to Zimbabwe's modest first nings total of 183. The result leant Zimbabwe cannot lose the series and carry their 1-0 lead by virtue of victory in the Peshawar Test to Faisalabad where the third and final Test begins on

Temp Forecast

Ouemsland after the fourth and final day of their match at the Melbourne Cricket Ground yesterday. Queensland 35-4-9dec, 152-3dec (S Law 77no) Victoria 206 and 292-9 (B Hodge 100. M Elliott 50; P Jack-son 5-65).

FOOTBALL ASIAN GAMES (Bangkok) Oxarter-fi-nais: Iran 4 Uzbekistan D; Thailand 2 5 Korea 1; Chima 3 Turkmenistan 0; Kuwait 0 Catar 0 (pet: Kuwait won 3-1 on penalties).

GOLF WORLD RANKINGS (US unless stated): 1 T Woods 12.30 pts avg: 2 M O'Mearo 10.43; 3 D Duvat 9.67; 4 D Love III 9.43; 5 E Els (SA) 9.18: 6 N Price (Zm) RI 9.43. 5 E EIs (SA) 9.18: 6 N Price (Zmi) 8.98: 7 C Montgomerie (6B) 8.91; 8 L Westwood (GB) 8.65: 9 V Singh (Fiji) 8.51: 10 P Mickelson 7.76: 11 F Cupies 7.65: 12 J Furny 7.23; 13 M Osaki (Japan) 6.77: 14 J Parnevik (Swe) 6.47: 15 J Leonard 6.42: 16 S Elkington (Aus) 6.18: 17 D Carke (GB) 5 72: 18 G Norman (Aus) 5.65: 19 B Watts 5.23: 20 S Hoch 5.22.

ICE HOCKEY RNR.: Pridadelphia 2 Edmonton 2 (ot): Ana-nelm 3 Los Angeles 0; Chicago 2 Dallas

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated

ford v Oldham (7.45)

MOTOR RACING

SPORTING DIGEST

Michele Alboreto and Laurent Aiel-lo, the former Le Mans 24-hour race winners, will lead Audi's first assaul on the event next year. Alboreto, ar ex-Formula One driver from Italy won at Le Mans in 1997 while Aielto, from France, who will drive for Nissan in this year's British Touring Car Championship, enjoyed suc-cess alongside Britain's Allan McNish

RUGBY LEAGUE

Hull are bowing to public pressure by reverting to their traditional strip of irregular black and white hoops. A poll in a local newspaper hoops. A poll in a local newspaper showed supporters overwhelming-ly in favour of going back to what is arguably the most distinctive shirt in the game after years of flirt-ing with vanous designs. Hull will re-veal their new, which is to say old look today and also hope to be able to finally say something definite about the future of their Great Britain centre. Alan Hunte. Hunte has been linked with a move to rugby union but has now said that, in the absence of a sufficiently attractive offer, he expects to stay at Hull. Wakefield Trinity hope to have the thorny question of their finances in Super League for the next two years resolved at a meeting of the Rugby League's board of directors tomorrow. Trinity have already begun the necessary team strengthening for next

season and want to take it a stag further by taking four Bradford play-ers with considerable first team experience on loan. They are Jon Scales, win Crouthers, the former Great Britain second rower Sonny Nickle and Andy Hodgson, although Scales is also a target for Bristol Rugby Union. Martin Wood, a discarded Challenge Cup winner at Sheffield, has rejoined s former club, Keighley, whilst Josh hite, unwanted at Salford, is on his way to Workington.

RUGBY UNION Cardiff have threatened to withdraw from the Swalec Cup unless they are

allowed to change the date of Saturday's fourth-round tie against Llandovery. The Blue and Blacks, who face Wasps on Sunday, say they cannot play as the Arms Park is un available due to building work. However, the Welsh Rugby Union have said the game must go ahead. Gareth Davies, the Cardiff chief executive said "If that's the case, we will withdraw,

SKIING

Alberto Tomba's father vesterday denied reports of a comeback of the triple Olympic champion in the 1999 World Alpine Championships at Vail. Tomba, one of the most suc-cessful skiers ever, announced his retirement last year and did not enter the current World Cup. According to reports the 31-year-old Italian was considering starting in gate events at the February championships.

SNOOKER **GERMAN MASTERS (Bingen) Final: J** Parrott (Eng) bt M Williams (Wal) 6-4.

TABLE TENNIS

England will be seeking revenge to-day as they face the Czech Republic in the first leg of the European Men's league semi-final in Maldenhead. The Czechs thwarted England's promotion bid from the first division to the Subid from the first division to the Su-per Division of the league a year ago. England will look to their world No 25 Matthew Syed and the experienced Carl Prean to lead their challenge. The 18-year-old, Gareth Herbert, is ex-pected to be given the third singles place ahead of Alex Perry and Terry Warms. The first lead is will see the Young. The first keg tie will see the Czechs headed by their lead player Petr Korbel, who is ranked 30th in the

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TRAVEL EXCURANCES

TODAY'S FIXTURES

POMESCINE V TANADAY NEW V BISSON: Tonbridge w Cambridge City.

NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE CUP First round: Mossiey v Acheron Col-lieries. Second round: Glossop v Cheadle. JENISON WESSEN LEAGUE: BAT v Essteigh. League Cup second round second legs New-bury v Boumemouch: Lymingron & New Milton v Brackenhurs; Wimborne v Thatcham ponsored by AXA) D-ROUND REPLAYS Bristol Rovers v Eleter (7.45)

NSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE Prom

JEMSON LASTERN LEAGUE (7.45) Pre-

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND AL-

LIANCE: Stourport v West Midlands Police

miler Division: Fakenham v Lowestoft: G leston v Dest Great Yarmouth v Stowmari Histon v Soham: Maldon v Newmarket; W

boys v Bury Town. League Cup round: Halstead y Felbistowe.

Leyton Orient v Kingstonian (7.45) Manchester City v Darlington (7.45) Plymouth v Wycombe (7.45) Rotherham v Rochdale (7.45) Division: Deal v Sheppey (7.45); Faversham v Erith Town (7.45); Slade Green v Whitstable (7.45). Rushden v Doncaster (7.45)... Wigan v Notts County (7.45) . stable (7.45). UNIVERSELY COUNTY LEAGUE First Division: Eastbourne Utd v Languey Sports; Horsham VMCA v Ringmer: Portfield v Righam (7.15); Sathdean v Halisham; Shore-ham v Hassocks (7.45); Chichester v Wick. NATIONWIDE POOTBALL LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION POOTBALL CONFERENCE SCRENIFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Di-vision: Westbury v Backwell (7 45). ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN
LEAGUE First Division: Chester-le-Street
v Shakon; Consett v Newcoste Blue San; Eaington v Billingham Synthonia; Gulsborough
v South Shields: Jarrow v Pentiti; Marske v
Stockton; West Auckland v Morpeth.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE THIRD DIVISION housemuir v Brechin

LIANCE: SOUPORT VIVES MIGENTS POICE.

NORTHERN COURTIES EAST LEAGUE
CUP Third roused: Armithorpe Welfare v
Tadcaster: Arnold v Harrogate Railway
17 451; Bluton v North Ferriby, Denaby
Sheffield; Malithy Mann v Ossett Ablon: Ossert Town v Hallam; Seiby v Pontefract;
Thackley v Garforth.

PONTINE I MAGILE They Phylogana Garge. Gulseley v Whitby, Runcom v Lancaster Pirst Division: Burscough v Droylsden; Great Harwood v Ashton Utd; Mattock v Harmgate Town: Stockshringe v Farsley Cettic. Challenge Cap second resemb Worksop v Fricidey. Sec-ond-resemb replay: Winstord v Witton. Uniffilin First Distailon Cap second resemb Eastwood You'v Wardford Farih Avenue. I Footh Ut PONTINS LEAGUE First Divisions Grins-by v West Bromwich (7.0) Second Divi-sion: Bradford City v Lincoln City (2.0). Scarborough v Blackpool (7.0). AMON INSURANCE COMBENATION First Division: Bournemouth v Cheisea; Queen's Park Rangers v Tottenham (2.0). THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP Taird round: Crystal Palace v Trammere Rovers (7.45) (at Crustey Rown), Cambridge Urd v Ippanch Coun (7.0): West Bromwich v Notungham Forest (7.0). Millwall v Reading PONTINS LEAGUE Plyst Division: Griffs DR MARTINS LEAGUE CUP First round second leg: Nuneaton v Atherstone; Bal-dock v Redditch: Gresley Rovers v Ismworth

RUGBY LEAGUE

BASKETBALL UNI BALL TROPINE Chester Jets v Sneffield Sharks (7.30). ICE HOCKEY

SEKONDA SUPERLEAGUE: London Knights v Nortm Panthers (7.0) (at Lon-don Arena). OTHER SPORTS SNOOKER: Irish Open (at National Bas ketball Arena, Dublin).

TODAY'S NUMBER

The position that England will retain in the world cricket rankings despite their woeful Ashes showing, according to Wisden. They remain marginally above Zimbabwe.

Current Account Rates for Personal Customers

From start of business on 15th December 1998 the following rates of interest are applicable to the accounts

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HAPPY RETURN FOR DORIGO P19 BAD DAY FOR ELWAY'S BRONCOS P21



COMM

Vieira's £20,000 fine for V-sign

THE ARSENAL midfielder Patrick Vieira was cleared of assaulting a police officer by a Football Association disciplinary commission yesterday but must pay a £20,000 fine equalling the record handed out by the FA – for a V-sign he made towards Sheffield Wednesday fans at the end of the Premiership match, won 1-0 by the Owls, at Hillsborough on 26 September:

The Arsenal manager, Arsène Wenger, was an eyewitness to the alleged tunnel bust-up between Vieira and South Yorkshire police officer Jim Tune and admitted after the hearing that he had feared the weight of police evidence three officers including Tune attended the commission in Birmingham - would count against his 22-year-old French World Cup winner.

Wenger said: "I must admit I feared the case might have gone against Patrick and the club because it is not often you get three nel. Vieira admitted to the comofficers giving evidence in such a case. It's the first time I've seen that in 30 years in football. The abuse from the crowd. As he evidence of the police is always strong and you will have to ask them why they decided to pur- an unknown assailant. He said sue this case.

"I am surprised the police alising it was a police officer. came here and said what they did today because if there had been real evidence I would have expected a criminal case to

Patrick - not a footballing case." When asked about the validity of the police evidence, in relation to any alleged assault Wenger said: "I would say the against the police officer. police were sincere but there was no aggressive behaviour commission over his conduct from Patrick towards the police. and has been reminded of his

BY JOHN CURTIS

any statement about justice in England. You can see that this was footballing justice."

Vieira's fine is the equivalent of around one and a half week's wages and equals the punishment given to Vinnie Jones for his narration of the Soccer's Hard Men video in November

An FA spokesman, Steve Double, said: "Patrick Vieira was today found guilty of misconduct following an incident at the end of the Sheffield Wednesday-Arsenal match in September An FA commission heard police evidence that the player made a two-fingered gesture to the crowd at the end of the match. "It is also said an officer who

tried to usher Patrick Vieira down the players' tunnel was pushed in the chest, causing him to stumble across the tunmission that he had made a V-sign in response to racial went down the tunnel he felt himself grabbed from behind by he had broken free without re-

"The commission heard supporting evidence from club officials, Wenger. The commission ruled have been brought against that Vieira was guilty of misconduct in relation to the gesture to the crowd but not guilty

"Vieira has apologised to the I am not in the position to make responsibilities as a footballer."



part of the costs of the three and as to his future conduct.

In a statement, Superintendent John Donnelly, of South Yorkshire police, said: "We have always said we would be happy with whatever the FA decided about

Vieira's conduct. "The incident in the tunnel involved one of our officers and

Vieira was also ordered to pay we felt that the FA should take it into consideration when looking at the serious allegations about his behaviour.

> "My officers are there to help, to prevent violence and trouble. Players need to know this as well as the fans."

Donnelly reiterated that the police would not be bringing any criminal prosecution against Vieira over the tunnel incident.

£20.000 £15.000

Patrick Vielra (Arsenal) lan Wright (Arsenal) umber 1998; For making offersi July 1997: For remarks he made to a referee at Blackburn Rovers and for gesres to l'ans during a 1-0 league de-£20.000

£10,000 Vinnie Jones (Wimbledon) Paolo Di Canio (Sheff Wed) ber 1992: Also given a six-mont November 1998: Also given 11-game suspension for pushing the referee Paul Alcock to the ground during stormy Pre-miership clash with Arsenal. which gave advice on how to foul play-ers without the referees' noticing.

£10,000 ided for two years) Hans Segers & Bruce Grobbelger December 1997: Also given suspended six-month ban for breaking FA rules

for betting on matches. £10,000 Faustino Asprilia (Newcastle) April 1996: Also banned for one march

Viduka received 'torrent of abuse'

CROATIA ZAGREB claimed yesterday that they had still not received the £3m Celtic agreed to pay for the striker Marko Viduka. And the club insisted that if the money is not forthcoming in the next 10 days they will turn to world football's governing body, Fifa, and its European counterpart, Uefa, for guid-

Viduka is now resting at home in Australia following his walk-out from Parkhead without playing a match. He said at a news conference yesterday that he was an emotional wreck after receiving a torrent of abuse from Zagreb's supporters

Zagreb's spokesman Goran Bradic said: "The transfer fee was due last Thursday but we are prepared to wait another 10 days if necessary. If we do not receive the money by then we will have to turn to Fifa's and Uefa's lawyers to see what we can do."

Viduka insists he will return to Parkhead but claimed he had been unable to shop or eat out in Zagreb after being abused in the street. Bradic said: "Marko is a good guy, polite and honest, but maybe in some games for us he didn't try so hard. Once you get on the bad list of our fans it is almost impossible to win back their support.

"Our supporters are crue They don't think about people's emotions. For the past two years they have been taunting our president that he is a homosexual. They shout about your mother and your wife. But it's not all our supporters who act like this, maybe 5,000 out of 40,000. But if you are a public person who is highly paid then perhaps you have to put on a brave face."

Viduka walked out on Celtic nine days ago on the eve of h debut against Hearts Tynecastle. He said: "I thought that once I had escaped to a new country with similar values to Australia that I would be able to once again excel at the game I live for and love. But that wasn't the case. So I decided to come back home - to recover, get my strength back - and then return to the only game I have ever wanted to play."

With the Premier League closing down on 3 Januar or three weeks, Viduka is unlikely to feature in Celtic's plans

THE TUESDAY CROSSWORD

No.3794 Tuesday 15 December

By Aelred

Monday's Solution



ACROSS Taking two pennies in change and a note (7) Encouragement to get

22 Programme of half-truths? (4-11) energy - gas? (3,4) 9 Far from quick compari- 23 After that time sappers son hammered home? 24 Playwright born Indian 10 Part of poem retained by

African toddler (5) 11 Made opening for brainy types (9) 12 Lays bells out - that's

three (9) 14 A time spent in the Strand in a fitting way

15 Old time artist wants 16 Fellow's rewritten a his- 4

tory of a shrub (9)

DOWN Old volumes depicting fish and desserts (7) Detective, perhaps, is not a natty male dresser? (5-7,3)

Perhaps fiancee in Roma comes up beside Service in top car model Declare gold chair must be given to this one (9)

Letachig daughter (5)

They house some country's emissaries (5) 18 ESP centre's thrown out 5

Therefor, 18 Describes 1996 Reputered as a newspaper with the Box Office

21 Son played round, for example, with musical

will be genuine (7)

sign (5)

6 Leave car to get a warm coat (5)

Not naturally opposed to whisky? (7,3,5)
Remove liquid of spilt drink, about a litre, at end of day (4-3)
Sentence Ring, say, to

process ending in the next generation (4,5) 14 A bottomless pit in one advanced country (9) Takes photos of old

models (7) A Colonel yet to organ-ise a faithful follower (7) Man and woman embracing daughter (5)

quiry on 19 December. In October, during Australia's last tour of Pakistan. Waugh testified that former na-Published by Independent Newspapers (UK) Lumited, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, and printed it Mirror tional captain Salim Malik had offered him a bribe during Australia's 1994 sub-continent tour

CRICKET

or not to go to Pakistan.

ing has changed. The same

thing still happened," he said of

had been difficult and, in hind-

the Malik affair.

THE AUSTRALIAN Cricket Board has received a summons BY LAWRENCE PRESCOTT from a Pakistan judge asking for Shane Warne and Mark Waugh to appear before a betting and Malik has denied the allegamatch-fixing inquiry. tions, and says the recent ad-"We've received it and we've missions by the two Australians

told the players we've received it, but we won't discuss it at any length until they've finished their matches," ACB spokesman Patrick Keane said yesterday. Waugh is playing for Australia in the third Ashes test against England, which ends today.

Warne, still recovering from the effects of shoulder surgery, captained his Victoria state side in a domestic four-day Sheffield Shield match which ended in a draw against Queensland at the Melbourne Cricket Ground yesterday.

The two admitted last week junction with the ACB, whether that they had taken money from a bookmaker to provide pitch and weather information during Australia's 1994 tour of Sri Lanka and Pakistan. The pair were secretly fined by the ACB in early 1995 but the incident was not revealed until last week.

A spokesman for the Pakistan Cricket Board said that Justice Malik Mohammad Qayyum had issued a summons directing Waugh and Warne to appear before the in-

"Yes, Mark and I were involved with a bookmaker but nothing has changed between what happened between Salim Malik, myself. Mark Waugh and Tim May. He still offered us money to throw a game and we said 'No'.' Warne said the past week

sight, it might have been better had the ACB not withheld the information four years ago.

He said he was determined not to let the controversy get the better of him. "I've still got a smile." Warne said after Vicprove his innocence. The judge toria's match yesterday. "There leading the inquiry said Waugh's credibility had been is a lot of talk going around but so what, there is always going to be rumour and innuendo.

damaged by his admission. "I'm still the same person I Waugh and Warne are both have been for 29 years and scheduled to play in a Sheffield Shield match in Sydney startpeople that are close to me still ing on 19 December and Warne know what sort of person I am. has not travelled to Pakistan But in these sorts of situations since the 1994 tour. Warne de-I suppose you work out who clined an earlier request to apyour real friends are, who aren't pear before the inquiry. and who is on your side and who The pair both strongly denied being involved in match-

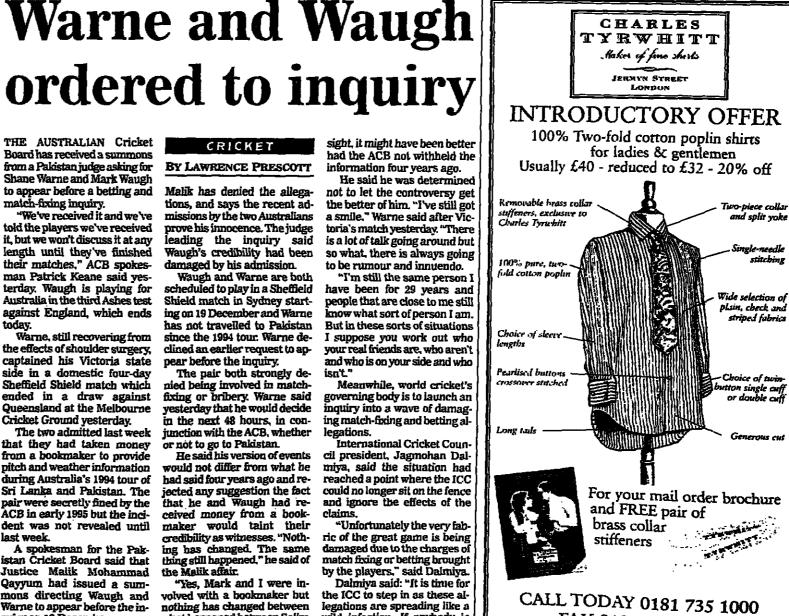
Meanwhile, world cricket's fixing or bribery. Warne said governing body is to launch an inquiry into a wave of damagyesterday that he would decide ing match-fixing and betting alin the next 48 hours, in conlegations. International Cricket Coun-

He said his version of events cil president, Jagmohan Dalmiya, said the situation had would not differ from what he had said four years ago and rereached a point where the ICC jected any suggestion the fact that he and Waugh had recould no longer sit on the fence and ignore the effects of the ceived money from a book-maker would taint their "Unfortunately the very fabcredibility as witnesses. "Noth-

ric of the great game is being damaged due to the charges of match fixing or betting brought by the players," said Dalmiya. Dalmiya said: "It is time for the ICC to step in as these al-

legations are spreading like a wild infection. If anybody is found guilty then stringent action should be taken." He added that the ICC would

act in a decisive manner and not allow the issue to be swept



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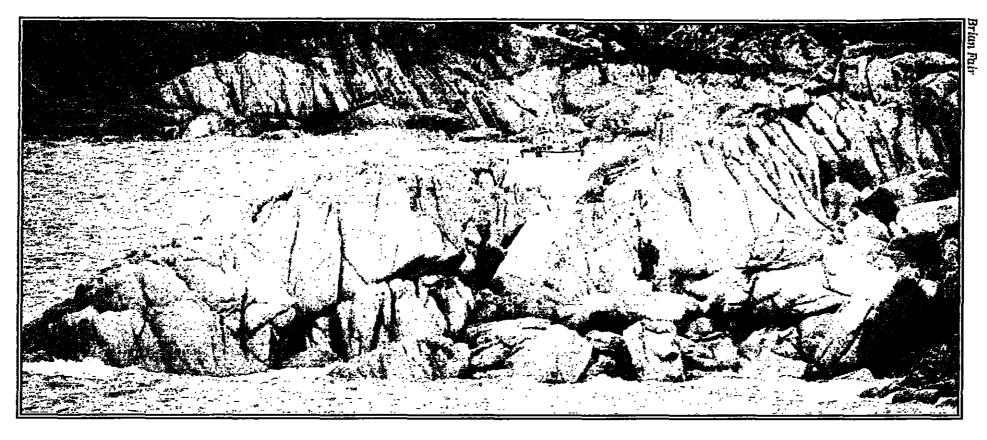
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COMMENT FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS

The lost sons of Iona



Hay, Kirkpatrick, Dougal, MacFadyen 'They were as much a part of the island as the very rocks themselves'

can see the red boats dancing. over the Sound of Iona/ I can see the seagulls prancing, over the sound of Iona" (a traditional song). As a freelance journalist who spent most of his childhood holidays on the Hebridean island of long, it was inevitable that I would be -- Lup on Sunday morning. The grotesque news had begun to filter through about the loss of the four young men who had drowned the night before, while returning to the island from a dance on the neighbouring island of Mull. At first I found it almost impossible to

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4. 3⁴ - 1일)

speak. As a child, my abiding passion had been a wooden dinghy almost identical to the one in which the men had been travelling when it overturned and I knew every inch of that sea journey which they had been making. Worse still, I knew the families that they were all anxious to get

I too have been to the dances in the villas-gof Bunessan and returned after them actors the Sound of Iona in the moonlight. I too had seen the phosphorescence explode from the boughs of my dingy as it crunched through the waves, as they would have done. I too have heard running waves heaving unexpectedly out of the darkness, as they would have done, felt those waves lift the boat, as they would have done, and bailed the salty spray from the bilges. Though not with as much passion as they would have done.

Such moments have been among the most exhilarating of my life, and I can remember throwing my head back and yelling at the stars at the glory of it all. It when they died.

Two days after the accident I feel I must write something, because wherever I have been today I have heard mutterings from those who don't understand what happened on that night. Many have seemed only too quick to assume that the drownings were a result of a group of foolish young men who went to sea in an inappropriate boat with too much drink in them. To me, it is inconceivable that that was the case.

So what did happen on Saturday night on Iona? We shall never fully know. But what we do know as fact is that five highly experienced young seamen, who probably knew that stretch of water better than anyone else alive, made a valid decision to cross it in weather certainly no worse than that in which they would have crossed it many times before. They were travelling in a small boat that was famous for the steadfast way that it went about its normal task - which was to deliver the crew of a fishing boat every day across that very same stretch of water. We also know that the coastguard has said that the boat was not overloaded. And that all but one of them

was lost. Were they drunk? No. I simply cannot believe such a possibility. It was well-known in the locality that whenever these boys were out they always appointed a nondrinker in the party and the local publican has confirmed that this was the case on Saturday night. These weren't daft laddies; they were grown men and experienced sea-

Was the weather too rough then? Patently yes, but I can only assume that it was a freak patch of roughness rather than general bad weather - otherwise they would have stayed with their friends on was, so they tell me, a starlit night Mull just as they would have done on many other occasions.

So what went wrong? If I had to chance ation where nothing ever happens. These a guess, I would envisage a freak shower guys lived in a place where "things" hapof rain which blocked out the moon, a huge wave roaring down the shallow Sound of Iona, a chance moment when the lack of visibility coincided with the arrival of that wave, and the boat eventually overturning. Maybe there was a rock involved. In Gaelic we have a saying: "The sea forgives, but the rocks are merciless."

pen all the time, where danger and risk are integral parts of everyday life, and where indeed it is only those who take risks that

Even though these men died young they will have probably lived more in their short lives than many who die old in cities. I salute them. But it is those left behind on

BY MAX MACLEOD

Should we dismiss these men as hotheads who got their just comeuppance? Well, you can if you like, but I won't.

Recently I read a remark by Woody

So what should we make of it all? the island who will have to pay a heavy price for this accident.

I have been thinking today particularly of one widow, a good woman - if the term has any meaning at all - who has lost her Allen, who said that much of the purpose only son, after losing his equally decent faof New York society was to create a situ- ther to cancer when that man was in his



The local police resumed their search for bodies on Monday morning. The very hard hit. They are a well-known Iona Sound of Iona/ I would leave thee never missing men weren't 'daft laddies', but experienced seamen Brian Fair family, specialising in boats, running a fish-

forties. I have been thinking of a young girl howling in a caravan. I have been thinking of three families who have lost their

And I have been thinking of the 70-strong community on Iona.

Yesterday a community worker who works on Mull and Iona phoned me to say that she didn't believe that the tiny island community of Iona would ever recover from the loss of so many of its most promising young men, but I had to disagree with her. Nevertheless, the loss is great. Take, for example, Logie MacFadyen.

Logie, just 23, ran his family croft on the north end of the island. It overlooks the white sands of Iona, which were made famous by the Iona colourists Peploe and Bunty Cadell. Logie's father, the late Doodie MacFadyen, was one of the most respected members of the community and now lies buried next to John Smith, the former Labour leader. Doodie died of cancer while he was still in his forties and Logie was just in his teens.

After his father's death, Logie would return from school at Oban on the weekends to work the croft. The community was hugely impressed by the way a child did a man's job. It is particularly sad that now with Logie gone, his widowed mother, Jane, will have to manage the land all by herself

Then there is Bob Hay, 23, a member of the Beaton family. He helped crew a tourist boat which took visitors out to Fingal's Cave on Staffa. Davy Kirkpatrick, 23. also lost, worked on the prawn trawler The Silver Spray, with Ally Dougal, only 19 and another fisherman who has fallen victim to this tragedy. The Kirkpatricks will be

ing vessel and a tourist boat.

The Beatons, the Kirkpatricks, the Dougals, the MacFadyens are as much part of the island of Iona as the very rocks themselves and, although the island community is vulnerable, it is also perversely a very strong one because of those families and several others like them.

The community will react with immense sadness, dignity and self-reliance. As locals the men will be entitled to be buried at the Rehlig Oran, which in the medieval period was known as the Westminster of Scotland. Here lie the kings and chieftains of Scotland in the medieval era. King Duncan was buried near to his murderer Macbeth, of Shakespearean fame.

No one knows when the funerals will take place as, at the time of writing, only one body has been found. The grieving will be nurtured by dozens of their extended family, many of whom will return to Iona when the funerals are possible, and by hundreds of other mourners who know the families through their annual visits to the island

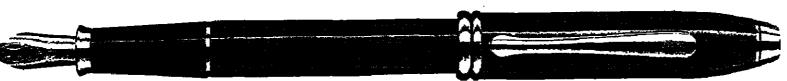
At this moment on Iona the tiny community is suffering a downturn in its fortunes. The school is under threat of closure. The people are suffering from bad seasons in tourism and farming while the price of housing is now equal to that in London. But the community will survive. It will survive because it is built from people like the ones who were lost on Saturday night. Decent, hard-working people, people who are prepared to take a risk. People who love the place. People who deserve our admiration. Let our prayers be with them this Christmas.

"Oh that I could live forever, near to the never, lovely Sound of Iona."

	Letters	2
11/17/24	Leaders and comment	3-5
	Obituaries	6-7

2	Features 8	Media	13-14	Radio	17
3-5	Arts. 9-10	Listings	15-16	Satellite TV	17
<u>5-7</u>	Health 11-12	Games	17	Today's TV	18

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Lottery torture

Sir: Having been close to the problems of the Earth Centre for some time I have come to the conclusion that Lottery funding is a sophisticated form of torture. It raises hopes and stimulates dreams which are gradually ground down by the pressure of having to find matching funding.

The cynical flavour of Nonie Neisewand's article (11 December) will not have boosted morale at Conisborough. This is one of the Landmark projects which sets its sights well beyond the fizz of the 2000 event. As the next century progresses the Earth Centre will become an international focus for information and research on matters to do with global warming and climate change. At present the idea of "sustainability" is fashionable: within the next few decades it could be a matter of life and death. There is no other enterprise under way which will so effectively point the way to survival.

I endorse Professor Ken Pounds' plea (letter, 14 December) that the Millennium Commission with government help ensures that enterprises which will shape the future, like the Earth Centre realise their design potential. Professor PETER F SMITH School of Construction Sheffield Hallam University

Ways to sell homes

Sir: Martin Fraser seems to think the current house purchase system cannot be improved upon (letter 9 December). Is he a lawyer? Other countries have efficient and workable systems which produce less stress and anguish in house transfers.

Canada, for example. There is a standard agreement form and a few brief conditions are added, such as satisfactory survey and availability of funds within a specified time, maybe 10 to 14 days, during which time the offer to sell is legally regarded as irrevocable. When the conditions are met, the deal becomes final. unless concealed facts about title, or other statements by the vendor, become apparent within a further specified period. The purchaser pays a deposit (perhaps 1 to 2 per cent) which is surrendered if he reneges without due cause. Thus the deal has to be decided within a brief time limit - which depends on banks, lawyers and surveyors working effectively.

The land is (usually) already registered. No long chains build up and both vendor and purchaser soon know the outcome of the offer.

Problems seem to be rare, and over the years I bought and sold three houses there with less doubt than a single purchase here. There can be a better way. KENJOY

Kenilworth, Warwickshire

Sir: I am a retired chartered surveyor who is less than proud of my institution and its role in government proposals on the housing market. The only possible reason that the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors should "hail revolution in house buying" (report, 8 December) is that it sees the government proposals as an opportunity for surveyors to raise their profile and obtain more fees from unnecessary surveys which potential vendors would be forced to commission. Any rational professional

analysis must conclude that the proposals would deter many house-owners from putting properties on the market, thus increasing scarcity and forcing prices upwards with more, not less, opportunity for gazumping. The "seller's pack" could cost a vendor up to £1.000 just to put the property on the market and both the survey and the legal search elements of the pack would be out of date in quite a short time. Any delay in finding a purchaser could therefore result in even more continuing expenditure for a vendor.

These proposals will disadvantage both the buyers and sellers. The Government should beware the partial advice of an

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Christmas Workers No 2: the toy demonstrator. At Hamleys toy shop in London's West End, Stephen demonstrates blow-up gum

Tom Pilston

Universal Declaration is no more

Declaration. Just as Turkey was not punished for its crimes -

because the victorious Allies were

too busy competing among

about the genocide of the

whom they will "punish".

Armenians - neither will the

themselves for the spoils of the

defunct Ottoman Empire to care

Universal Declaration be effective

as long as nations pick and choose

When political expediency

one will get a prize for guessing

which will win. The big and the

strong will only pick on the small

and the weak. And since it is only

the big and the strong who can do

human rights, only the small and

Pious words and intentions

anything about violations of

the weak will be punished.

never deterred a killer

London W1

Carr.

ANDREW KEVORKIAN

No callous Dean

Sir: May I make some points about

censured for 'callous' sacking", (10

appreciated Dr Neary's music and

would have many positive things to

The word "callous" is neither in

Lord Jauncey's report nor in the

body of the article as printed.

The first paragraph of the

reprimanded by a government

report for the way in which he

advice of Lord Jauncey to the

whether the Dean and Chapter

amounting to gross misconduct

in concluding that actions

PETER BOTTOMLEY MP

had occurred.

London SW1

(Worthing West, C)

House of Commons

article states that the Dean was

dismissed Dr and Mrs Neary. The

Queen is not a government report.

Essentially he had to consider

(not the Dean alone) were justified

the article and headline, "Dean

December)? I write as someone

who has attended Westminster

Abbey during 46 years. I have

say about the Dean. Dr Wesley

comes against moral rectitude, no

effective than the 1915

institution representing a profession whose relevance continues its decline of recent NICHOLAS HICKS

Maidstone, Kent

Nato's global role

Sir: Robin Cook is once more showing ("Germany and US split over role for Nato", 9 December) that the UK has neither an independent nor an ethical foreign policy. His "me too-ism" behind the US is becoming automatic. The further expansion of Nato into a US global military force is a dangerous, destabilising policy. China and South Africa, among others, have already voiced strong opposition.

Nuclear-armed Nato has nothing to do with nuclear so-called deterrence, but everything to do with proliferation. By reiterating that nuclear weapons are needed for defence, the nuclear weapons states are creating the ideal climate for proliferation. Thus the decline into further danger this year with India and Pakistani nuclear testing while Israel, Iran and others are stealthily getting on with development.

We need a Nato policy which will contribute to the stability of the world. Backing the German call for a policy of no first use of nuclear weapons would be a sound first

RAE STREET Littleborough, Lancashire

Boats of war

Sir: Leonard Reynolds' account of the wartime activities of Motor Torpedo Boats and Motor Gun Boats in Historical Notes ("Dog boats in the battle of the narrow seas", 7 December: took me back to my treasured copy of The Battle of the Narrow Seas (Country Life, 1945) written by Lt-Cdr Peter Scott tartist son of Scott of the Antarctic and later to become famous for his prowess in sailing and gliding and as the founder of the Slimbridge bird sanctuary) as a history of the Light Coastal Forces in the

Channel and North Sea, 1939-1945. Scott was himself a Coastal Forces "ace" and commanded a

flotilla of steam gunboats (SGBs) which were just long enough to have names (appropriately, Scott's own boat was Grey Goose) and which saw action for the first time as part of the naval force for the Dieppe raid in August 1942. The book is graced by his own pen and ink drawings and portraits of fellow officers as well as colour reproductions of some of his artime watercolour paintings.

Scott makes the point, however, that by March 1944 "the concept of a dual-purpose boat had become universal in Coastal Forces. The distinction between MTB and MGB had been almost entirely removed, all newly constructed boats [being] fitted with torpedoes and guns, and a torpedo armament was added to all but a very few of the oldest MGBs". With only a few exceptions, the official title "MGB" was replaced by "MTB" although "a small number of the oldest Dclass boats changed their title but were not converted and found themselves in an anomalous position as MTBs without torpedoes" **GEOFFREY BATTEN**

Sir: Commentaries on the

latest reduction in interest

puzzled by the view that the

to be measured by the size of

shop sales over the Christmas

realise that the accumulation

of more and more "stuff" does

by a happy family atmosphere

at home over Christmas are

more important. Perhaps an

support the poor and lonely in

our society might be a better

ability and willingness to

JULIET BULLIMORE

East Bergholt, Suffolk

measure.

period. Do not most people

Birmingham

Save our coral

Sir: John Prescott's call for a UN body to "tackle the threats to oceans from global warming and pollution" is admirable ("Britain wants UN body to save reefs", 10 December). It is particularly admirable given that one of their first ports of call should be the UK.

Recent discoveries have found incredible coral reefs on biogenic mounds below the surface of the north-east Atlantic off the west coast of Scotland. Little is known about these coral habitats and the ecology of the species around them.

However, it is looking increasingly likely that before much more is known about these sites they will be destroyed or degraded as a result of Department of Trade and Industry action. While Mr Prescott is preaching to the UN, his colleague Peter Mandelson is busy licensing the whole of the north-east Atlantic for new oil development.

The new oil developments licensed by the DTI threaten the UK's ocean coral through global warming and pollution. The new oil produced cannot be burned if we are to prevent potentially damaging the coral through

climate change. But long before then, the coral is likely to have been smothered by drill cuttings and polluted by oil spills.

John Prescott should bear in mind that "bringing the message home" means clearing up your own backyard as much as preaching to the international community. ROB GUETERBOCK Greenpeace UK London N1

Good intentions

Sir. In all the recent coverage of the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, I failed to see any reference to the fact that its preamble contains the sentiments and words of the equally pious and wellintentioned Declaration of 24 May 1915, by the entente powers, which promised to punish Turkey for the genocide of the Armenians, and which used such words as "crimes ... against

humanity and civilisation". It created the framework of international law for the codifying of "crimes against humanity". It was later used in the Nuremberg Charter (article 6c).

It is easy to explain why the

IN BRIEF

rates have left me increasingly Sir: The reason John health of the economy appears Sutherland cannot find literary criticism at Borders ("Who needs critics?", 12 December) is that scholarship has become so fragmented - mostly deconstructed by the French and politically corrected by the not improve the quality of life? Modest presents accompanied Americans. A Borders of 25 years ago would certainly have had Lionel Trilling, Alfred Kazan and even William Empson on its shelves. The whole area between journalistic judgements and academic minutiae bas disappeared. **BOBBI PORTES** London EC1

Sir: Denys Whatmore (letter, 9 December) says that smokers should be made individually to contribute towards the cost of their treatment on the NHS.

They already bave. The tax on cigarettes more than covers the NHS bill for smokers by a factor of between three and five, depending on which figures vou believe. Far from being at the back

of the queue, smokers should be at the front when it comes to treatment, as they are generously subsidising the rest of us. The Rev DAVID E FLAVELL

Liverpool

Animal wrongs

Sir: Following the furore in the press surrounding the hunger strike of a single animal rights activist, we feel it is important to point out that this tiny minority is far outweighed by the great many animal welfare supporters who are involved in peaceful campaigns against cruelty to

Naturewatch has been democratically lobbying MPs and industry for a Royal Commission into animal experiments for the past three years and has gained the cross-party support of 248 MPs. There are substantial arguments for the establishment of a Royal Commission, which Naturewatch will continue to put forward through legal means.

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The violent activities of the extremist animai activists are guaranteed media coverage. Why shouldn't law-abiding campaigning work merit just as much attention? JOHN RUANE Director Naturewatch Cheltenham. Gloucestershire

Sir. He was only an animal rights protester, but he chickened out in the end. MARTIN KYRLE Eastleigh, Hampshire

A new NHS

Sir: The letter from Dr Danny Wallace (9 December) reflects the current lack of awareness about the structure, function and future development of NHS Direct. This is understandable as the blueprint for this service is still being developed.

The development of a highquality nurse triage system of the type used in our NHS Direct pilot will save lives that would otherwise be lost in the current model of healthcare. It will also have a beneficial effect on the outcomes of episodes of acute and chronic

The system will offer the tool to integrate emerging primary care and secondary care systems in a way that will help reduce long wait in accident and emergency departments, and will help people to help themselves.

Health education will be improved, as will patients' access to services. By helping patients to consistently get to the right entry point into the health service, waste of professional and patient time will be reduced, to everyone's benefit. This is not wishful thinking but part of an exciting, evidence based, modernisation program for the NHS.

The NHS methods that have served us well since 1948 may not? be the ones to lead us into the next century. Dr KEVIN McKENNA

Medical Director NHS Direct Northumbria

Sir: Dr Danny Wallace must live a charmed life down in Devon, Has he ever tried to get through to his GP on the telephone for advice?

As both a consumer and a provider of services within general practice, my experience is that many doctors are only officially available to speak to people on the phone for about half an hour to one hour per day, possibly at a time not convenient for the person ringing in. This assumes you can first get past the efficiently trained receptionist's vetting process. GPs have been required to take on an ever-increasing range of tasks, so they must let go and let others take on certain responsibilities.

Nurses are ideally placed to offer advice on some matters, and to direct people to appropriate help for others. BRIDGET CLARENCE-SMITH RGN/HV London N8

In the pipeline

Sir: Reports say Thames Water are laying off 300 staff. Will that be compulsory redundancies or natural leakage? WILLIAM F LONG Loughton, Esser

A half-century of jolly conundrums for Christmas

TODAY WE bring you a Christmas Quiz, but a Christmas Quiz with a difference. All other Christmas quizzes are about the news of the ast year, or current events, or general knowledge. This Christmas Quiz is just about Christmas, And you don't have to answer any of the auestions...

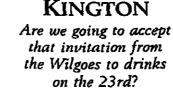
- 1. Lord, is it December already? 2. Have we ordered a turkey?
- 3. You remember what happened
- last year? 4. Or was it the year before?
- 5. We don't want to have that happening again, do we?
- 6. When are we going to get the Christmas tree:
- 7. You remember what happened

- 8. When you left it to Christmas
- 9. And all the trees had gone? 10. Except for a few about two feet
- 11. And you bought one so small that you put it on the table and said: "Table-top trees are all the rage this year":
- 12. And it fell off the table 15 times over Christmas?
- 13. Pulling the lights out of the socket and shorting the electrics each
- 14. Which reminds me, have we got the tree lights out again this year? 15. What do you mean, you can't remember where you put them?
- 16. Well, I think we ought to get them out and test them, don't you?
- 17. Incidentally, are we going to have
- 18. Well, are we going to send any this year?
- 19. Didn't you say that last year?
- 20. You remember, you said that you weren't going to send any this year, and then you relented and said ou ought to send some after all and by that time it was 23 December, which was far too late, but ob no, you would insist on sending loads out even though you knew they wouldn't arrive anywhere until after Christmas, and, in the case of our Australian friends, the New Year ...?
- 21. Which reminds me, are we going to accept that invitation from the Wilgoes to drinks on the 23rd? 22. No. not the 22nd, I think it was

the 23rd, wasn't it?

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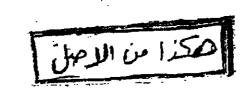
MILES



23. Where have you put the

24. I gave it to you, didn't I?

- 25. Never mind were there any cards in the post this morning? 26. Oh, who was it from?
- 27. What do you mean, you've no idea who it's from? 28. Isn't there a name inside?
- 29. What do you mean, there are 17 names written inside?
- 30. And you don't know any of them? 31. Why not read the names out? 32. Who's Terry?
- 33. Who's Tracey? 34. Who's Ken and Barry and Liz and Jenny and Oscar... '
- 35. Hold on, I don't think we know any of these people at all - isn't this one of those office cards where everyone sits round and signs their names and they all get shot off to
- clients, or in our case, people who used to be clients?
- 36. Why on earth do they bother? 37. Incidentally, have we got any crackers vet?
- 38. You remember what happened last year? 39. When we left it so late we never
- 40. And you found that old box of
- crackers in the cellar? 41. And produced them triumphantly on Christmas Day?
- 42. And they were so old, that none of them made a bang?
- 43. And all the gifts inside the crackers were indoor fireworks. which were so far past their sellby date that they either didn't go off or exploded dangerously?
- 44. And all the jokes in the crackers were so old that half were incomprehensible and the other half actionable under the Race Relations Act?
- 45. Incidentally, have you got anything for making mulled wine
- 46. You remember what happened last year, don't you? 47. When we suddenly decided to
- make some hot spicy wine? 48. And the only kit we could find was at the back of the kitchen cup-
- board? 49. And the Best Before date was December 1993?
- 50. And you said, "Well, let's try it anyway - it can't have gone off that much..." but it had? Etc. etc, etc.



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*THE INDEPENDENT

1 CANADA SQUARE, CANARY WHARF, LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 0171 345 2000 FAX: 0171 293 2435 OR 0171 345 2435 THE INDEPENDENT ON THE INTERNET: WWW.INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Now Israel must help Mr Arafat to deliver peace

THE DECISION to revoke clauses in the Palestinian Liberation Organisation's charter, those denying Israel's right to exist, is some cause for celebration. But the semantics involved in getting to this stage, and the debate over the formal vote that was eventually taken, are another depressing reminder of the ground still to be made up in the Middle East peace process.

The clauses the Israelis objected to were indeed offensive. They called for the destruction of a whole nation, the only full democracy in the region, which has as much right to exist as every other state. They were an anachronistic throw-back to the bad old days of confrontation, a thorn in the side of a peace process which should make all sides feel more secure, not less.

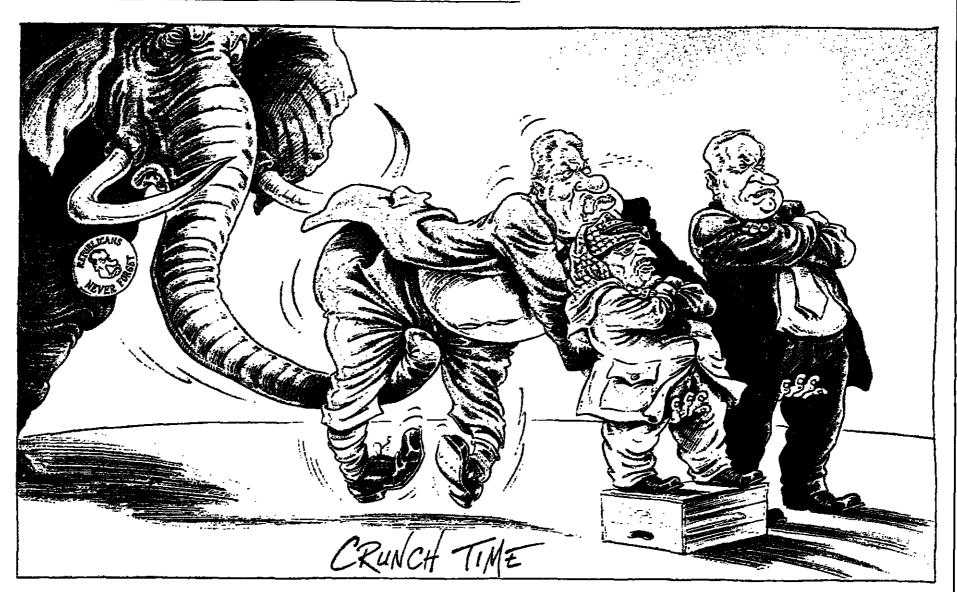
Israel has every right to defend itself by bargaining with the release of prisoners, and yielding up of land, which it agreed to in the Wye accord just weeks ago. But there seems little doubt that Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian National Council, at least, are sincere in renouncing the war of which their charter speaks. The Palestinians' legislative body, the Central Council, had already voted to do just that. The whole process, including the famous Rabin-Arafat handshake in Washington, has always involved an implicit acceptance of the reality of Israel.

This does not mean that explicit repeal means nothing. It is a welcome symbol to an anxious Israeli public, and demonstrates Mr Arafat's ability to shape Palestinian opinion as a whole. The benefits, however, will stop there.

Israelis' real fear - further terrorism on their own soil - will not be lifted. The PLO cannot deliver the end of terrorist violence; it is aimed as much at them and their compromises with the old enemy as it is at the Israelis. Ever since the Palestinian intifudo began in 1988 Mr Arafat has exercised a diminishing authority over Palestinians. Now Israel seems to be doing all it can to speed that process.

Mr Netanyahu's ratcheting up of his demands on all and sundry is misguided. He is a man who can sense weaking, both physically and politically, and is concerned only to make domestic political capital from this advantage. Mr Netanyahu lacks the feel for the historic compromise which would secure Israel's future, unlike an older generation of the Israeli right represented by Begin or Shamir.

His tactical adroitness is not matched by his sense of strategy. He has every right to insist that the Palestinian Authority do everything in its power to stamp out terrorism; but beyond a certain point, turning the screw further will weaken Mr Arafat, and his ability to deliver. That point has now been reached. The Palestinian recognition of Israel is welcome, even if hedged around with doubts; it is up to Mr Netanyahu to see that Israel responds.



An efficiency drive that misses the point

ness, and exploit it; now, he perceives Mr Arafat to be ail. A MUSEUM director was astonished when he attended a meeting with the Prime Minister and the Arts Minister to find that the only word used as an aim was "efficiency".

Efficiency is indeed the prime purpose of Chris Smith's announcement yesterday of a new funding structure for the arts. Stripped of all the current management-speak about increased outputs and aims, what Mr Smith is really doing is reducing the number of bodies through which grants go to the arts, and centralising them.

Nothing wrong with that, although it sits uncomfortably with the Government's other declared aim of devolving power. From an efficiency viewpoint it's probably better to roll the Crafts Council into the Arts Council, to merge English Heritage and the Royal Commission on the His-

torical Monuments of England and to wrap architecture into a new national body. It's also good to see a moderate increase in funding for the new bodies, along with special funds to enable museums to waive charges. The problem is with aims. Efficiency of itself is not much of an ambition, particularly when it concerns so volatile and subjective a field as the arts. Loading into the comprehensive spending review a series of generalisations about excellence and "a duty to future generations" does not help.

Ultimately what matters with arts funding is not structures but people. The first Wilson government is remembered for its commitment to the arts because of Jennie Lee. The Royal Fine Art Commission has established a reputation because its members have proved particularly open and supportive of modern architecture.

Unfortunately, this Government has not been notable for its arts appointments. Chris Smith has been confused and ineffective. Gerry Robinson at the Arts Council and Sir Colin Southgate at the Royal Opera House are both wrong men

in the wrong place - examples of Blair's excessive cronyism to businessmen friendly to his party.

The creation of three new super-quangos is a chance to look hard again at appointments. The public has a right to know how these people are chosen and, more important, what are the targets and contract terms given to them.

Neighbours...

THE NEWS of Sir Bernard Ingham's contretemps with his neighbour, in which a car door may or may not have been dented - and angry words certainly were exchanged - will come as no surprise to a generation of political correspondents. He is used to such confrontations. As the famously combative Mr Ingham might have said, this is all "bunkum and balderdash". Of course, it was much easier when Mr Ingham's famous boss was installed in 10 Downing Street. When the neighbours in No 11 caused trouble, he merely made sure they soon moved away.

Who are these asylum-seeking scum? They're people like my grandparents

MR NICHOLAS van Hoogstraten is all who know about him agree - a bad man. The milk of human kindness has long since turned rancid somewhere inside the property tycoon's tight waistcoat.

As chronicled in these pages yesterday, Mr van Hoogstraten has graduated from being the nastiest slum landlord of the post-Rachman era, and is now the nastiest landowner of the democratic age. He's the man, the very thin man, what fences the ramblers' way. It's Christmas, and most of us reared on pantomime pe that our hissing will help ensure that he gets his comeuppance.

Like any really good villain, Van Hoogstraten himself is disconcertingly clear about the reasons for his wickedness. He has erected a 7-ft fence and a barn across an ancient right of way (which would bring walkers within eyeshot of his vulgar folly, Hamilton House) because, as he puts it: "The only purpose of great wealth is to separate oneself from the riff-raff."

There have been hints from the millionaire that he may be prepared to use force to defend his land from incursion by middle-aged women wearing sensible shoes. Here we have it; brute force, selfishness and sult. Mr van Hoogstraten seems to be a one-man proven case for new "right-to-roam" legislation.

Coincidentally, I was reading about l'affaire d'Hoogstraten while eating my All-Bran and listening to the Today programme, where they were discussing the laws and procedures governing the treatment of asylumseekers. The Tory spokesthing on

THE MAIN result of the summit

is that the heads of EU states

have given the German EU

presidency the task of solving

the problems. There should

be no problem in formulating

an acceptable jobs pact. No

other issue has seen so many

mostly woolly declarations and

promises as employment.

Suddeutsche Zeitung.

Amony

Home Affairs, James Clappison (a fullfaced young man, with the colour and demeanour of a country landowner himself), was being pressed on the issue of the many more people coming to this country than are strictly entitled to. Surely, he was asked, this is a major crisis, and something should be done? A Home Office minister followed and assured everyone that, yes, it was serious, and something was being done.

Asylum-seekers, you will recall, occupied one of the few vacant slots in the Queen's Speech, once the intention to reform the Lords had been allowed for That's because bogus ones are flooding in from Albania and weird republics that didn't exist a decade ago. They're secreting them-selves in HGVs and then falling off the backs of lorries in Dover and Hillingdon; they stow away in ships, aircraft, and haywains and the smaller ones, I daresay, hide in duty-free carrier bags. They then have to be put into costly prisons and disused mental hospitals, where they manage simultaneously to live expensively, and in squalor. Almost everyone agrees, as we saw earlier, that it is a serious prob-

lem and something must be done. Well, I don't. Providing that the councils in Dover and Hillingdon are given a bit of extra dosh to help them cope, I think almost nothing should be done. Per capita we receive fewer asylum-seekers than several other European countries, and there are no signs whatsoever that that wonderfully elastic bit of material, the social fabric, is under any terrible strain.

between a common market

and a country, so taking on new

members is complex. Thou-

sands of laws must be aligned.

But the delay also stems from

a lack of political will. Poorer

countries already in do not

want to share their subsidies.

Rich countries do not want to

BLAIR VEHEMENTLY defend-

take on new burdens.

Washinaton Post



AARONOVITCH

Almost everyone agrees that immigration is a serious problem and something must be done. Well, I don't

not an old English moniker. My illiterate paternal grandparents, Moishe and Gitel, were two of the 120,000 Jews who came to live in Britain between the early 1880s and the beginning of the First World War. So, every year for three decades, an average of 4,000 East European Jews arrived and settled. Millions more passed through.

At about the time that the Aaronovitches landed, the British consul in Riga, in Russian Latvia, gave voice to a familiar concern. Each ship leaving harbour, he said, contained only "160 passengers with passports, but 200 will land in London. The emigrants are supposed to be bound for the USA or South Africa, and might produce vouchers to this effect, but for the most part, these vouchers are a blind and given gratis by emi-My name, you may have noticed, is gration agents here."

Naturally, they lived in squalor, prompting The Times - in the early years of this century - to run an article entitled, "The Alien Immigrant", in which it claimed that: "The average immigrant is unsanitary in his habits: he is personally unclean."

A Stepney councillor in 1911 commented that "the borough has been inundated by a swarm of people, fitly described as the scum of Central Europe". At this time, Moishe and Gitel were in Stepney, in Cable Street. where my father was later to be born.

"Scum" is a very Hoogstraten word, and "inundated" means "swamped". I am third-generation scum; and, I suppose, part of the flood. Not only that, but I am far from sure that my grandparents were directly persecuted themselves by Cossacks or Black Hundreds. I suspect that they were really "economic migrants", part of that dubious tide of people whose object is self-betterment beyond the borders within which they were born. Certainly they could have stayed in Lithuania - hundreds of thousands of Jews did, and were still

there in 1941. The stay-at-home Aaronovitches would almost certainly, have perished at the hands of the Einsatzgruppen or their local allies, in the first months of the Nazi occupation. I once wondered the same thing aloud in the presence of the then home secretary. Michael Howard, whose own Jewish forebears had come to Britain from Romania. Did this fact not, I asked him, in any way temper his harsh attitude towards asylum seekers in the late 20th century?

prehension. Was I saying that there should not be immigration laws?

Yes, I think that there should, but I am reluctant about it, not strident. I tell my children, when they ask me. that we are very lucky to live in this country at this time. And they have no trouble in making the small leap of imagination that Mr Howard was not sufficiently agile or willing to make. Which is that there are many out there who wish to do what my grandparents did, and that our morality in seeking too assiduously to prevent them, is suspect. But how long is it before the descendants of immigrants turn, and begin to see things from the Hoogstraten perspective, not as an oppor-

tunity for people like them, but as a threat from folk alien to them? Consider this debate - see Mr Clappison if you will - from the viewpoint of a dynamic, thwarted young Albanian, an intelligent Slovakian Gypsy, or a bright Mogadishu slumdweller. They look at the world into which they were born, and see large parts closed off against them, as surely as though some selfish, amoral tycoon had built a barn and a fence across their paths. "We were here first." we tell them. "Go away."

What was it that Hoogstraten said? Ah, yes: "The only purpose of great wealth is to separate oneself from the riff-raff.

Well, that's certainly what this country sometimes appears to believe. We want the right to walk past Mr Hoogstraten's mausoleum, but we don't want some ragged bugger from Tirana strolling past ours.

sidering its backlog of reforms. dent of the European Council).

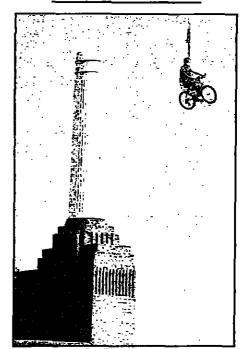
QUOTE OF THE DAY

"This is a window, a window for the peace of the brave, peace with our neighbours." Yasser Arafat, Palestinian leader

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"When ideas fail, words come in handy." Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, German poet

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MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD International comment on the weekend's European Union summit in Vienna

is compensation for Britain in the domain of agricultural

promise: he will give in if there always the highest possible. Berliner Zeitung, Germany

reforms. The British tactic is THIS SUMMIT deserves critied the rebate in Vienna but clear: nothing is given up cism. The EU has not got time indirectly showed signs of com- lightly, and the first demand is to throw away half a year con-

The German government was already talking big in exacerbated the problems by putting extra issues on the agenda, such as the jobs pact and the question of tax harmonisation, General-Anzeiger, Germany

A PARCEL of unsolved probsurprising that the German Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder until now. (Klima's successor as presi- Die Presse, Austria

solve all the EU's problems before the summit meeting in Cologne next year. He wants to carry through his reforms, solve employment problems, draw up a common safety pollems will now be passed on to icy and, on top of all that, his the Germans. And it is hardly country has to pay less into the communal pot than it has done

Vienna. Here he announced

that he intends to pretty much

THE EUROPEAN Union is moving slowly. It is somewhere indirectly showed signs of com-

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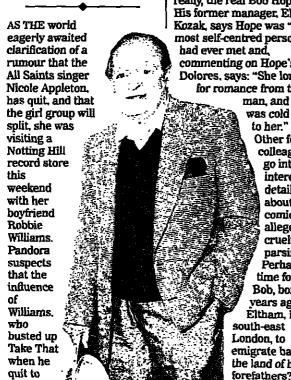
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PANDORA

WIDELY TIPPED to get a share of the Nobel Peace Prize, the former US Senator George Mitchell, so highly regarded for his work as mediator in the Northern Ireland peace negotiations, came away empty-handed in Oslo. But, it seems, not entirely unrewarded in Ireland. Mitchell has just become chairman of a USbacked \$20m (£12.4m) seaside golf course development in County Clare, called the Irish National Golf Club. In addition to his salary, Mitchell – who is a partner in the prestigious Washington law firm Verner, Liipfert, Bernhard, McPherson and Hand - will be given a plot of land to build a house at the resort, which will include three golf courses, a luxury hotel and a conference centre. Mitchell was appointed because he's "an icon of Irish-American relations", the development's chief executive officer, Doug Barton, told The Washington Post. His mediating talents may also have had something to do with it. The resort is under attack by Irish environmental groups, and there are questions about an American company (and its Irish subsidiary) receiving \$4m (£2.5m) in EC funds for the project.

IS WOOLWORTHS the first British retailer to ditch sterling in favour of the euro? Not really, but anyone who buys a packet of Woolies' festive milk chocolate coins this year may get that impression. The "classique" selection includes gold-foil-covered Deutschmarks, Freuch francs. Danish kroner and, yes, euros - but not a single pound. "We buy this from a supplier," a Woolworths spokesman explained to Pandora yesterday. "They tell us that they are forbidden by law from making chocolate money in sterling. Other currencies are fine. You'd better check this with the Mint, I guess."



launch his successful solo career, may prove decisive. There's no doubt about Williams's self-consuming professionalism. According to the record shop assistant: The last time he was here. his album was out, and he came in to see if we were displaying it properly."

READERS WILL recall

Pandora's report on Sports Minister Tony Banks's annoyance with lain Dale's book The Wit and Wisdom of Tony Banks. Over the past two weeks, this column has demonstrated - with choice quotations - that the book is in fact a glowing homage to Banks, and that the Sports Minister's ire is surely misguided. However, when the most recent Mail on Sunday ran a story suggesting that the Prime Minister was thinking of dropping Banks from the Cabinet in his next reshuffle, it seemed a good time to ring Banks and offer our encouragement. Had he not read Dale's book to cheer himself up? "It will make him mad if I ask him," an aide said. "He will bave no comment. He's having a pretty stressful time at the moment"

SIR BOB Hope, ennobled last May, is the subject of a humiliating attack in the new issue of The New Yorker. Foremost among his critics is Woody Allen, who is scathing about Hope's later TV career. "He was lazy – and nobody cared. He would come out and do these old-fashioned sketches, and after a while, he was unashamedly reading from cards. It was just awful," carps the arch-neurotic Alien. Far more hurtful, however, will be the words of Hope's former colleagues. Melville Shavelson, who wrote and directed a number of Hope's films, says: "The womanchaser. The coward. The cheap guy. We just put them in. He thought he was playing a character. He was playing, really, the real Bob Hope." His former manager, Elliot Kozak, says Hope was "the most self-centred person" he had ever met and. commenting on Hope's wife, Dolores, says: "She longed

man, and he was cold as ice to her." Other former colleagues go into interesting details about the comic's alleged cruelty and parsimony, Perhaps it's time for Sir Boh horn 95 years ago in Eltham, in south-east London, to emigrate back to the land of his

I WAS not among Selwyn Burr's closest friends, our acquaintance down the years tending to be of the brisk, passing kind. But he was one of those men whom one was always glad to meet, a big, bearded, talkative character for whom the usual clichés – "one of a kind". "larger than life" – are not quite sufficient. Give or take the odd adventure in southern France or on the west coast of America, he had lived in East Anglia, where he had arrived in the wave of those looking for an alternative lifestyle, since the early Sixties. He had done up houses, developed unlikely properties and tried to set up music festivals, forever an opportunist but one who had remained faithful to his hippy buccaneer roots. His was a wild and rackety life, so perhaps it should have been no

surprise that he died suddenly in his sixties. He was buried last week. There are funerals and funerals and, apart from one moment of bathos and irritation, Selwyn's was one of the better ones. Outside the church at Diss the coffin lay on a haycart behind a black carthorse. Inside there gathered a large crowd



BLACKER

Standing around the grave in the gathering dusk, we all sang 'Mr Tambourine Man'

of friends and family, an unconventional crew rather less formally and respectably dressed than might normally be expected at a solemn occasion at St Mary's. A musician friend sang a song about love. There were two eulogies, one from someone who had known him since their school days and who recounted the facts of Selwyn's eventful life, and another from a more recent friend,

who talked about Selwyn's influence on those around him. Both were eloquent and heartfelt.

The spirituality of sad old hippies

The vicar stood to make a sermon. His text was from St John. chapter 14: 'Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth and the life." The exposition was lengthy. We were told how Jesus was our friend, and why Christianity was different from all other religions, being more than just a set of rules. There was no reference to the life we were celebrating, or even to the reason why we were there. It was not a bad sermon, but every syllable sounded all-purpose and second-hand, as if it had been taken from "The Church of England Book of Sermons for Every Occasion".

As the sermon took its predictable course, the temperature in the congregation seemed to drop by about 10 degrees. It seemed to me - and later I discovered that I was not alone - that there was something hectoring in the well worn Anglican platitudes we were hearing. The secular obeisances had been expressed: now it was time for Jesus, not so much a friend, in this version, as a head prefect.

Church, we were being reminded, is not just for funerals or for Christmas but for always. Here, on an occasion when a group of serious and independent-minded people were at their most susceptible, was a perfect marketing opportunity; instead, we were being reminded of how exclusive, respectable and uncompromising the Church of

England could be. Surely establishment religion need not be this unbending. After all, was it not in this very church that John Skelton, the great and outrageous poet and rector of Diss. presided in the early 16th century, banishing a fellow cleric for hunting

pigeons with a falcon in St Mary's,

penning vitriolic epitaphs to parish-

composing poems in which reli-gious and sexual devotions are scandalously conflated? The unconventional attitude to religion lives on in Diss, incidentally. The local record shop has put a lifesized Nativity scene in its front window, in which Robbie Williams appears as Joseph and Natalie Imbruglia as the Virgin Mary, carrying, in swaddling-clothes, Mel B.

After the service, the haycart set off briskly through Diss towards Wortham Ling, a common two miles from Diss, on the border of which Selwyn was to be buried. Some of us trotting after the procession (the horse seemed to be in training for the plough sprint championships) partook of some half-time refreshments in a pub along the way. arguing that it was what Selwyn would have wished.

As a result we missed the interment, and, by the time we arrived, the vicar had gone and friends were already shovelling clay and earth into the grave. When the work was completed a guitar was produced and songsheets were handed out. Standing around the grave in the gathering dusk, we sang "Mr Tamioners of whom he disapproved and bourine Man".

To a passer-by on Wortham Ling, we might have seemed like a bunch of sad old hippies but as, far from the twisted reach of crazy sorrow, we sang in unison, the odd, psalm-like melody hanging in the still winter air. I suspect that we all felt nearer to Selwyn and to genuine spirituality than at any time during the church service that morning.

This row about guns will not unravel the peace process

UNTIL A little while ago the Northern Ireland peace process seemed to be summed up by the old Belfast adage, simultaneously cynical and optimistic, that the situation was desperate but not serious.

Recently the general view has shifted, as the impasse over arms decommissioning continues, mistrust remains at high levels and agreement on even routine details seems to take an eternity. Both the Unionist party and the

republican movement have painted themselves carefully into tight little corners that seem to offer no room for manoeuvre. David Trimble repeatedly says, with no ambiguity in his language, that he will not head an executive that includes Sinn Fein unless the IRA decommissions.

The IRA has just reiterated that it is firmly against decommissioning. Republicans accuse the Unionist party of trying to send them back to ing disillusionment with the Good Friday agreement. Both sides believe, or affect to believe, that the other has won too many concessions,

So how bad is it? There are certainly reasons to be worried, for in moil, but it is plainly not a land at addition to the central decommissioning deadlock there are many dangerous mines strewn around

Savage "punishment" beatings by the major paramilitary groups still go on in ghetto backstreets. There are recurring street clashes between Protestants and Catholics in a number of areas.

The major paramilitary groups, loyalist and republican, have by and large maintained their ceasefires, but on both sides menacing splinters have appeared. These are microscopic in comparison to the big organisations, but they can kill, and have killed. The awful example of



MCKITTRICK

The present peace is an imperfect state of affairs, but infinitely preferable to what went before

Omagh, where 29 people were killed just four months ago, is a reminder of what a single bomb can do. Disputes over loyalist marches

last July's Drumcree parade as a standing affront to their heritage, and continue to mount regular protests. It would be wrong to depict Northern Ireland as a society in turease with itself. The Good Friday agreement may have provided a blueprint for more peaceful coexistence, but most of it has not yet there will be years of coping with the legacy not just of the Troubles, but of previous centuries of discord.

Decommissioning can be viewed as a metaphor for all of that, as two communities struggle to work out the new power relationships between their political representatives. David Trimble says he is prepared to share cabinet power with Sinn Fein, but only on his own terms; reof trying to cut them down to size. republicans into the system, and win- of that 71 per cent referendum vote. eluded them.

A constant talking-point in political circles is the state of Mr Trimble's party. The May referendum on the agreement produced 71 per cent approval for it, but nearly half the Unionists voted against it. Many of these No voters now appear to accept that the overall result has given it considerable legitimacy, and that it is probably here to stay.

But even a section of those Unionists who voted for the agreement do not want Sinn Fein in the new government, or would accept this only after decommissioning. The latter position has been deliberately hardened up by Mr Trimble, who supported a motion to that effect at his recent party conference. The debate continues on whether

this is his own preferred stance or whether he has been pushed into it by his assembly back-benchers, some of whom have grave reservations about the Good Friday agreement. It is certainly the in Portadown regard the banning of however, that a majority of his Westminster MPs remain opposed to the whole deal. These divisions mean that the party line has been volatile and unpredictable.

Another frequent subject for debate is whether some in the Unionist party might actually believe the free executive. If they could pull this been enacted, and even when it is off it would produce an executive based on the Unionist party, the Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist party and the nationalist SDLP

This is a mirage. Not only would it smack of a resurrection of Unionist majority rule, but it would mean John Hume and Seamus Mallon of the SDLP abandoning their philosophy of political inclusion and agreeing to the sidelining of Sinn Fein. Mr Hume did not spend all publicans say he is in the business those years helping to bring the know the moral and political force



A member of the RUC displays captured terrorist weapons

ning a Nobel peace prize for it, to ahandon them now

come to a head in the po will somehow be resolved. At present no one can say precisely how the iravoid a destructive collision with the immovable object of Mr Adams: but alternative to war. the overwhelming sense is simply

that it must be done. A breakthrough this week on the issues of government departments and new cross-border arrangements both see real advantages in the could help the atmosphere considerably, and that is a possibility. But even if that doesn't happen, the chances are against the whole thing

unravelling. This is because there is an underlying strength and appeal in the peace process that has enabled it to surmount so many obstacles in the past. A variety of factors continue to underpin it: all sides know that Tony Blair, with his 170-odd majority, is not to be trifled with; they also

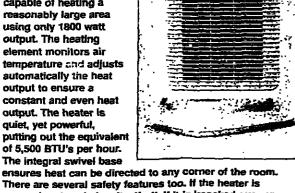
And almost all the politicians personally want the new system to The much more likely scenario is work. In part this is because of the that the decommissioning issue will straightforward lure of office, when politics offered gainful employment to very few. In part it resistible force of Mr Trimble can is due to idealism, of wanting to be part of a system that offers an

Even as the Unionist party and Sinn Fein bombard each other with hard-line rhetoric, the bottom lines that they have a shared interest new system, and neither wants it to fail. Putting something similar together again after a collapse would take long years.

Above all, there is the deep public desire for peace. The present peace is, as we have seen, a highly imperfect state of affairs, yet for most people it is infinitely preferable to what went before. It is this huge and pressing desire for peace which will eventually propel Unionists and republicans in the direction of the accommodation which has so far

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The pragmatic route to reform

this century has embarked upon so significant or wide-ranging a programme of constitutional reform as the New Labour Government. It is my particular pleasure, as the member of the Cabinet entrusted with driving forward development of policy, to have been invited here to give this lecture.

We have been widely praised, but also there is an indictment. The criticisms go in inconsistent directions. At one end are those who say that our reforms are too wide-ranging. too radical, verging on the revolutionary. At the other end are those who complain that they do not represent the root-andbranch overhaul that is required to drag the country's constitutional arrangements

into the 21st century. Our critics include some who, to their credit suffered long years of frustration arguing for some of the changes we have made. Yet now they, too, may have doubts: we have left things out or postponed them (for example freedom of information), we should have gone further and not only made the rights in the European Con-

NO OTHER government vention enforceable in domestic courts, but had a Human Rights Commission as well. or should have gone the whole hog and allowed the judges to set aside Acts of Parliament; or we should have waited to develop a home-grown Bill of Rights; or we should have done nothing at all until we had developed, perhaps through a Constitutional Convention, a comprehensive constitutional code. Or we should have established a new Constitutional Court.

The Government's approach is pragmatism based on principle. We believe that what matters is what works : we are not imposing uniformity for uniformity's sake.

It would be extraordinary if a union of such diverse parts as the United Kingdom could yield to a uniform pattern of powers, devolved from the centre. The continued harmony of a union of parts so diverse requires structures sensitive to place and people, not uniform structures imposed for uniformity's sake.

Intellectually satisfying neatness and tidiness are not the cement that makes new constitutional arrangements



LORD IRVINE

From a lecture by the Lord Chancellor to the Constitution Unit, a non-aligned think-tank, in London

stick. What stick are arrangements to which people can give their continuing consent. because they satisfy their democratic desires for

themselves. Let me explain why I believe the main elements of our reform programme add up to a coherent prescription.

First, devolution. We are bringing devolution to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The devolution schemes

different. The UK is an asymmetrical entity, and the Govthe different histories and contemporary circumstances of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. We are not promoting a federal style uniform devolution of powers, but differential devolution to different parts of the United Kingdom. Second, there are our pro-

posals for London. We will give London the voice it needs and deserves by creating a citywide strategic authority, consisting of a powerful, directly elected mayor, and a separately elected assembly Third, regional government

in England. The first step will be to establish regional development agencies, under the new Regional Development Agencies Act, in order to improve competitiveness and to provide for effective co-ordination of economic development. We remain committed to more accountable regional government in England. But we are not in the business of imposing solutions. We remain committed to move to directly elected regional government in England, where there is de-

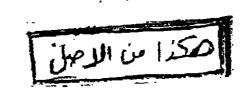
for all three are, of course, quite mand for it. Finding the right solutions may take time.

Fourth, reform of local government's approach reflects ernment. In keeping with our beliefs, there will cease to be a uniform structure for local government across the whole of the country. It will be for the people to choose the local arrangements that they feel best suit the needs of their own local areas.

Although there will be a number of different electoral systems as a result of the changes we are making, each is apt in the circumstances. Again, our approach is pragmatic. Clearly, the most important election is that to the

Westminster Parliament The Government welcomes the Jenkins Report, and has made clear that it wants to study it in detail. The Government believes that decisions on Jenkins will need to be looked at as part of the constitutional reform programme as a whole.

After many decades of sterility, we have embarked on a major programme of changes. Principled steps, not absolutist master plans, are the winning route to constitutional renewal. in unity and peace.



Farewell, couch potato



HAMISH MCRAE

Thanks to ever cheaper and more sophisticated computer services, leisure will become more active

EOUGHT ANY computer kit for Christmas? It is quite difficult not to notice that the pages of the papers at the weekend, including his one, were stuffed with advertisements for computers and related products. And if you have happened to buy a computer recently it is quite difficult not to notice how the price for similar machines seems to have halved in the last year. The computer we bought a year ago for £2,000 now goes for less han £1,000 - and they throw in printrs and scanners for free.

That is something else that has changed: the extent to which hardware is given away free, while software can still be quite expensive. In The Independent last Saturday they were advertising colour printers at 270, the same price you would pay for a couple of video games. Yet someone has to design and manufacture the printer, put it into a box and ship it around the world. The manufacturing cost of the video game, by contrast, is the few pence needed to stamp out the CD.

It is very hard to make money out of making things; you make money out of the intellectual content of the software. That may be the antics of ora Croft in Tomb Raider III or it Lay be a new programme that translates everything on your computer into French. It doesn't matter.

We have become so accustomed to these tumbling prices for computers that we hardly think about the process. When we do it is usually to complain that they are not coming down even faster. There seems to be some justification in these complaints, for it is quite true that prices in the US are lower still. But all this means is that we are now paying the prices Amer-

we have also become so accustomed to the increasing sophistication of software that we hardly blink when we hear of a new voicerecognition program. In fact we probably complain when it doesn't work very well unless you speak to it in a spoof American accent, which

But in regarding as normal this plunge in prices of computer hardware and surge in sophistication of software, we are missing something ound importance - a process

it understands better.



A bright six-year-old on a computer can find out as much about a subject as the average MP with the resources of the House of Commons library at their disposal

that will utterly change our lives. We are glimpsing the early stages of the reversal of a trend that has been running for half a century. We are switching from passive leisure activities to active ones.

For the last 50 years, thanks to ever cheaper and ever more sophisticated television, the tendency has been for leisure activities to become more passive. Now, thanks to ever cheaper and ever more sophisticated computer services, the tendency will be for leisure to become more active.

The wonderful thing about television is that you do not need to be very clever to use it. All you have to do is switch it on. In fact, however clever you are, there is not much you can do with it. You can switch channels and maybe if you are particularly bright you can try to programme the video-recorder. In addition, it is infinitely available: there in the room, ready to be used at no marginal cost. But essentially it is passive, and because it is so powerful a medium, absorbing three or four hours a day, it has sucked much of our leisure time

from other, more active pursuits. Now, quite suddenly, it has a serious challenger: the ever cheaper

and ever more capable computer. The cost of a computer is no longer a barrier: in real terms a midrange computer is now cheaper than a mid-range TV set was 10 years ago. Soon it will be cheaper. while Internet access will become cheaper than the price of a TV licence. Like the TV, the PC is in the home, convenient for immediate use. But unlike the case with a TV

set, to use it you have to be active.

The boxes look similar, but people use TV and PCs in completely different ways. They sit in different rooms; we sit different distances from them; we do completely different things with them. You have to do something all the time to make a computer work play a game, send an e-mail, look up flights on the Internet, write a column for a newspaper.

But time spent on a computer is time not available for watching TV. Television-watching is falling in homes with computers and falling faster in homes where there is also Internet access. The leisure medium that seemed to sweep all before it aand which itself is seeking a great lean forward with digitalisation) is starting a long, slow, gradual retreat. It is not going to disappear; but in

relative terms it will become progressively less important.

It is very hard, in the early stages of some great social change, to see clearly the full implications of that change. In any case the rise of the PC (and in particular PCs connected through the Internet) is only one aspect of a more general trend towards active leisure activities rather than passive ones. The number of restaurants is rising: more money is being spent on holidays. But the rise of the computer has the greatest social implications. Here are some guesses at what these might be.

First, the next generation of young adults will be both extremely dextrous and extremely adept at gathering and manipulating information. They will have had hours of training (thanks to computer games) in eye/ hand/ keyboard coordination. And they will have had access to the global library of the Internet, plus all the various online or on-disk encyclopaedias. (Encyclopaedia Britannica was thrown in for free, along with the free printer and the free scanner, in one of those ads in Saturday's paper (

Second, we will have a generation of very well educated people - on

average much better educated than their parents.

However, the level of education will be very much self-determined, for education is becoming a bottomup, demand-driven activity, rather than a top-down, supply-driven one. In the old days, to be well educated you had to be lucky enough to be well taught: increasingly you will need to be bright enough to use computers to teach yourself. That leads to a third and more

worrying probability. Some people will be excluded by the new technology, either because they don't have access to a computer, or because they lack the basic skills to use the kit. If write as somebody who spent 15 minutes last night trying to programme a number into a cordless phone, before I gave up in disgust.)

Fourth - and leading on from my third guess - societies will become skill-differentiated rather than nationally-differentiated. Clever people in a country like Britain will find they have much in common with similarly educated people everywhere else in the world, while less clever people here will find themselves squeezed out of jobs by brighter people on the other side of the world.

Fifth, this democratisation of knowledge - the fact that anyone with a terminal can gain access to high-quality information - will tend to reduce the power of elites, particularly political elites, everywhere. A really bright six-year-old hitting a computer can, with a bit of help, find out as much about a subject as a typical MP, despite the latter having all the resources of the House of Commons library. That is not meant to be a sneer at the intellectual capacity of our MPs, simply a comment on the fact that the comparative advantage of having a big research department will

become much smaller, relative to

the comparative advantage of

having a good mind.

I can't pretend to be able to see clearly where this democratisation of knowledge will lead society. I am sure that it is as important a change as the spread of compulsory, statefunded education in the last century. And Γm sure, too, that having people using their leisure actively is more likely to lead to a fulfilled and balanced society than to one where leisure is largely passive. That holds true even if the activity consists of zapping away on some computer game.

RIGHT OF REPLY

ANTONY WORRALL THOMPSON



The television cook and restaurateur responds to John Walsh's attack on celebrity chefs

JOHN WALSH'S article ("A real kitchen sink drama") appears to jump on the current bandwagon of knocking TV chefs. Walsh says: "The world of the TV chef is one of deadly competition, with no room for compromise."

Unfortunately, apart from a misquoted spat between Gary Rhodes and Delia Smith, the article fails to identify any argumentative TV chef.

I should point out that there is a difference between Michelin-starred chefs and TV chefs. All the infighting chefs Walsh named are the Michelin variety. Tom Aiken (Pied à Terre), Nico Ladenis (Chez Nico), Marco Pierre White (The Oakroom etc), and Michel Roux Jnr (Le Gavroche) have only a smattering of TV appearances between them.

The Michelin-driven chef is a breed apart, operating a temple of gastronomy, and desperately seeking his holy grail - three Michelin stars. This, I am sure, can create a certain degree of competitiveness, although I have yet to experience "the dyspeptic condemnation of their rivals". The Michelin chef is unique: please don't judge all chefs by the same vardstick.

TV chefs are a pretty laidback bunch. We are not interested, for TV purposes, in creating Michelin-style food. Cooking should be fun, and should not be attempted if you are feeling uptight. No longer is it an essential chore: you should do it because vou enjoy it. Supermarket HRMs (home replacement meals). ready-made meals to you and me, have taken away the drudgery of cooking. If you don't enjoy cooking, you just need a microwave oven.

Most TV chefs are good chums. Friendly rivalries exist, but I don't know anyone who jumps about just because Delia's got a new series. No. we are all quite civilised, and enjoy each other's company.

At last, the truth about George

I HAVE lost count of the number of times I must have settled down to read about George Eliot's life and then got bored. Although Eliot's life was far from boring, biographers often tend to bogged down in the religious disputes that dominated her youth. Then they tie themselves in knots trying to be tactful about her physical ugliness and the intricacies of her social and sexual meanderings.

Here at last, though, is an immensely readable, clear-sighted account of this remarkable novelist's freewheeling life. Kathryn Hughes, indeed, is so unafraid of trespassing into tricky territory that her interest becomes, at times, unashamedly voyeuristic. This is a healthy and thrilling corrective to all that earlier delicacy and obfuscation. The scale of the hypocrisy Hughes exposes is breathtaking, and the intelligent gusto th which she performs her task is reshing and delightful.

Queen Victoria and Mary Ann Evans were born within six months of each other in 1819. At neither birth to detail the surprising number of parallels between the two lives: "When



TUESDAY BOOK

GEORGE ELIOT: THE LAST VICTORIAN BY KATHRYN HUGHES, FOURTH ESTATE, £20

could their future importance have been predicted. Yet Victoria was destined to give her name to the century and embody the respectable values of the times. The other girl, using the disturbing male pseudonym of George Eliot, would come to represent the very opposite: "One gave her name to virtuous repression, a rigid channelling of desire into the safe haven of marriage and family. The other, made wickeder by male disguise, became a symbol of the fallen woman, banished to the edges of society."

Hughes sets up this conventional view and then, with typical panache, dismisses it as "bluster". She goes on

it came to men, both clung with the hunger of children rather than the secure attachment of grown women... And when both men died before them, their widows fell into an extended stupor which recalled the despair of an abandoned baby." Queen Victoria and George Eliot would later form unlikely attachments, and in both cases "menopausal randiness was sniggeringly invoked as the reason for these ludicrous liaisons". Young Mary Ann Evans cut such an

embarrassing dash that it is hardly surprising earlier biographers attempted to gloss over her absurd behaviour. In her devout youth, she was ridiculously over-zealous: "During these years she started a clothing club, organised bazaars, ran a Sunday school and visited the local workhouse... 'We shall never have another Mary Ann Evans' was the ambiguous lament of those on the receiving end of her charity when she left Coventry in 1841."

She embarked on a vast, Casaubonbirth of Christ to the Reformation. She would go to parties and make a ridiculooked on from the sidelines while the other guests danced, chatted and between them. flirted. Battling with an urge to surrender to the rhythm of the music is the description of the treatment and also, perhaps, to be the centre of meted out to Marian Evans, as she was attention, she took refuge first in a then known, when she started living beadache, then in an attack of screaming hysterics." Far from being Lewes - who made the mistake of embarrassed by her own antics, she described it all in vivid detail in a letter,



Trevyn McDowell and Douglas Hodge in the BBC's 'Middlemarch'

attested to her holiness".

This preposterous religiosity was later matched by the embarrassing zeal and blindness with which George Eliot threw herself at a series of married men. She had an unerring ability to gravitate towards unconventional menages, and Hughes never teases our curiosity unless it can't be helped. There is no shortage of detail about many relationships in her life. like project to create a chart laying out The publisher, John Chapman, for the history of the Church from the instance, obligingly kept a detailed diary in which he lovingly noted which of the women he kept in his household lous spectacle of her puritanism; "She he had slept with, and recorded the rows he delighted in provoking

The most shocking part of the book with the married George Henry condoning his wife's affair with another and paradoxical, in this book man. He had allowed himself to be

since "her shouting and weeping named on the birth certificate as the father of a child of this liaison. This legality made divorce impossible for him. Although this had little impact on Lewes's own life, it put Mary Ann Lewes (as she styled herself) beyond the bounds of acceptability. Ironically, this coincided with the beginning of her career as a novelist and probably forced her to concentrate on writing fiction rather than gadding about.

The biography is beautifully written. A chapter beginning "Having waited fifteen years to start writing fiction. it was excruciating to have to put it off for three weeks longer..." is typical of the wit and perspicacity of the whole. But I never did find out what makes George Eliot "the last Victorian" - a phrase that appears to have been lifted out of its context in the final paragraph. I would have ventured a few paragraphs back and extracted the phrase "an extraordinary paradox". For there is much that is extraordinary.

CHARLOTTE CORY

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TUESDAY POEM WHAT I SAY...'

AFTER MANDELSTAM, FROM 'A RUSSIAN NOTEBOOK' BY DAVID WHEATLEY What I say is just a rough draft whispered, since it isn't time yet.

of victory is all our blood and sweat. And under purgatory's provisional sky to have grown forgetful's not so rare not seeing that heaven's in our custody already -

Only heaven lifts the trophy, whose heft

This poem comes from David Wheatley's first collection, 'Thirst' (Gallery Press, Loughcrew, Oldcastle, Co Meath, Ireland; £6.95)

the lifelong home we've carried with us everywhere.

Janet Lewis

THE DEATH of the poet and novel- Coloured People); they organised the ist Janet Lewis, at the age of 99, marks the passing of the last survivor of the extraordinary generation of American literary talent which began to publish in the 1920s. She and Ernest Hemingway began their literary careers at virtually the same moment, with contributions to the same high school literary mag-azine. Her imagist poetry, which she continued to write throughout her long life, first saw the, light of day when William Carlos Williams and H.D. were beginning their metrical experiments.

If she was in some ways representative of her generation, the spareness and limpidity of her writing were wholly her own, and her work was never touched by the implicit anti-intellectualism and contempt for the past that tainted the writings of many of her contemporaries. Her books possess a quality of deep re-pose, a kind of distilled wisdom in the face of human disaster and pain, which is difficult to describe and impossible to imitate, but which, once encountered, is unforgettable.

She was born in 1899, the daughter of a professor of at the University of Chicago. She read French at the same university, and whilst an undergraduate became a member of the Chicago Poetry Club, which at that time included many who were to be among the most influential poets of the 20th century. It was during this period that she met her future husband, the poet and critic Yvor Winters; travels in Europe were followed by five years in a sanatorium in Santa Fe, New Mexico. where she gradually recovered from

Once cured, she and Winters were married, and moved to Palo Alto, California, in order to allow Winters to take up a position at Stanford University. They remained there until Winters's death in 1968, and Janet Lewis stayed in the same house, keeping Winters's study exactly as he had left it, until her own death.

Winters had a very forceful personality one that sometimes overwhelmed those who came in contact with it, and it is an indication of Janet Lewis's own strength of conviction. that her writings, while admired by her husband, are quite unlike his. Their published works do, however, show two shared concerns: a reverence for the natural world, and a conviction that intelligent sanity is kindness and understanding; sharp, complacency and more interesting

They shared, too, a consciousness that was unfashionably ahead of its time: they vigorously protested the internment of Japanese Americans in the Second World War. They were founder members of the California Yvor Winters (died 1968; one son, branch of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of California 1 December 1998.

retrial of a man unjustly convicted of murder; and they were both deeply concerned with the plight and history of Native Americans.

This last preoccupation is apparent in Janet Lewis's first collection of poems, The Indians in the Woods (1922), and received its most extended treatment in her first novel, The Invasion (1932), an account of the penetration by Europeans of the area around Lake Superior. She later turned The Invasion into a libretto for an opera by Bain Murray, and she was to do the same with what is probably her most famous novel, The Wife of Martin Guerre (1941; opera 1956, with music by William Bergsman). She also turned texts by Wilde and Grimm into opera libretti, as well as Fenimore Cooper's The Last of the Molicons (opera 1976, with music by Alva Henderson).

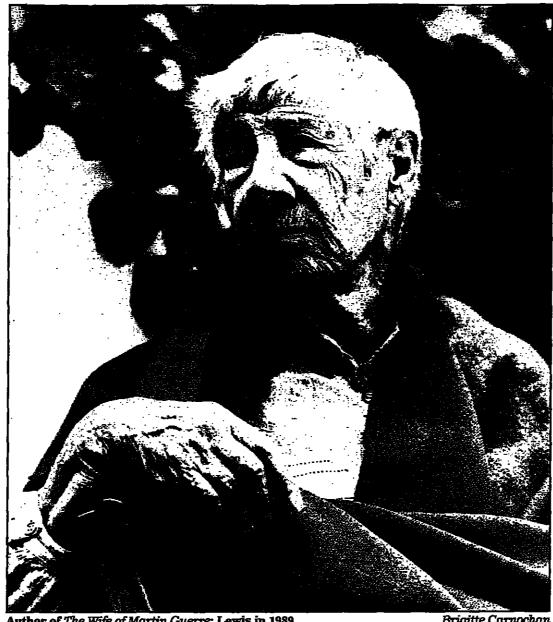
The novel that made her name. The Wife of Mortin Guerre, was a fictionalised recreation of an actual legal case from 16th-century France, and two more of her novels, The Trial of Soren Qvist (1947) and The Ghost of Monsieur Scarron (1959) were also based on real trials in which circumstantial evidence played a crucial and misleading role. Her novel Against a Darkening Sky (1943) dealt with the impact of the Depression in California. She also wrote a book of short stories (Goodbye Son, 1946).

She continued to publish poetry until almost the end of her life; apart from The Indians in the Woods, volumes include Poems (1950), The Ancient Ones (1979), Poems Old and New (1981), Last Offerings (1988), and The Dear Past (1994).

Important though her novels are, her true spirit seems most obvious in the poetry: it is here that her gift for the evocation of other lives, her paradoxically clear and gentle gaze, the immense tact and tenderness of her vision, are most apparent. Able to use both traditional metres and imagist free verse with equal dexterity, she could create extraordinary resonances with the simplest of means, and in this she was like no other noet of her time.

Those who knew her attested to how the qualities evident in her writing were also everywhere apparent in her life: meeting her one felt the presence of a rare wisdom, she truly seemed to be one of the very few who, in Arnold's phrase, "saw life steadily, and saw it whole".

Janet Lewis, writer and poet: born Chicago 17 August 1899; married one daughter); died Palo Alto,



Author of The Wife of Martin Guerre: Lewis in 1989

Brigitte Carnochan

In the Egyptian Museum

Under the lucent glass, Closed from the living air, Clear in electric glare That does not change nor pass, Armlet and amulet And woven gold are laid Beside the turquoise braid With coral flowers inset.

The beetle, lapis, green, Graved with the old device And linen brown with spice, Long centuries unseen, And this most gracious wealth, Exiled from the warm hair, Meet now the curious stare -All talismans of death.

All that the anguished mind Most nobly could invent, To one devotion bent, That death seem less unkind; That the degraded flesh, Grown spiritless and cold, Be housed in beaten gold, A rich and rigid mesh.

Such pain is garnered here In every close-locked case, Concentrate in this place Year after fading year, That, while I wait, a cry, As from beneath the glass, Pierces me with 'Alas That the beloved must die!'

From Poems 1924-1944 (1950)

Eprime Eshag

practitioner of economics who unrepentant Keynesian socialist. It will indeed be difficult to forget the energy and passion which he devoted to this cause, in his years as a Fellow of Wadham College, Oxford, from 1963 to 1986, and in his work for various international organisations.

He was also remarkable for his unusual origins and eventful life before he came to Oxford in 1963. He was born in Iran in 1918, the son of a Christian preacher in the Assyrian minority from the town of Urmia. When he was only a few months old, the family fled persecution into the Russian part of Azerbaijan, where his mother died. His father and stepmother returned to Urmia in 1926.

In 1936 Eshag won the top scholarship from the Bank Melli Iran to study accountancy at the London School of Economics. His interests moved towards economics and he came to the notice of J.M. Keynes as a man of promise. After a brief period working in the Bank in Tehran in 1946, he left, on a point of principle, to pursue private practice in accountancy in Iran. At the same time he was an active but dissident member of the left-wing Tudeh party. He wrote two influential pamphlets which challenged the leadership, and he soon found it better to return to Cambridge, where he completed his PhD on the history of monetary

Apart from Keynes himself, Eshag became too a devoted and enthusiastic disciple of Joan Robinson. Michal Kalecki was another Keynesian mentor. As he was interested in applying his knowledge in the context of international development, Eshag joined the UN as an Economic Affairs Officer in the UN Secretariat. His nine years in New York ended with two disenchanting field trips to Ethiopia and Zaire, and a confrontation with the UN Secretary-

General Dag Hammarskjöld. In 1963 Eshag joined both Wadham College and the Institute of Economics and Statistics in Oxford University. He continued to work for the UN on short contracts, such as a stint preparing documents for the North-South negotiations in 1980, and various studies for Unctad (United Nations Commission for Trade and Development). Much of his research output as an academ-



The Keynesian corner

EPRIME ESHAG was a teacher and ic is submerged in UN documents but he also published studies of the practitioner of economics who had been economic management in "less developed countries" from all parts of the world: Argentina, Egypt, Tunisia, West Africa and South Korea, for example, often in collaboration with junior colagues at the institute.

Much of what he wanted to say about developing countries was gathered together in the book he published in 1983, Fiscal and Monetary Policies and Problems in Developing Countries. This has recently been revised and translated into Chinese following Eshag's visit to China in 1988 and a sustained activity in bringing Chinese students to Oxford in recent years.

Development economics was one of the specialities of his teaching, so also was Keynesian and monetary analysis. He imparted to his students the ability to organise their thoughts and, for all his own convictions, did not indoctrinate. He held the Keynesian corner in the Economics sub-faculty while the tide of his colleagues' opinion took a monetarist, micro-economic and mathematical turn, against all of which he vociferously protested. This did not lead to any more resignations or expulsions, merely to affectionate tolerance, epitomised by one colleague who remarked after a meeting: "The Assyrian came down like a wolf on

Eshag contributed newspaper articles on economics right up to this year, expressing dismay about the direction being taken by New Labour Shortly before his death he was thinking of writing against the privatisation of the London Underground.

In 1966, he had set out his views in a tract entitled Present System of Trade and Payments versus Full Employment and Welfare State. This illustrates not only the issues about which he cared passionately, but also the difficulty he had for many years with the correct placing of the definite article in English. This was a topic on which he was willing to take advice, and he did also speak Assyrian, Persian, French, Spanish and Russian - a global man with global concerns.

For all his aggressive manner, he was a kind and caring friend, brother and mentor, affectionate and sentimental behind an assertive exterior. His hospitality in Wadham was notable for the Assyrian cuisine and the caviar be served amid his collection of fine Persian carpets. He also raised money from the Iranian royal family to endow a new library

in the college. For most of his years at Oxford, 🕻 Eprime Eshag was also an unrepentant man of many girlfriends. He completed his settling down in Ox-Linda Lewis, in 1992. Until his short final illness they lived in the north Oxford home that he had named after his birthplace.

HEATHER JOSHI

Eprime Eshag, economist: born Urmia, Iran 6 November 1918; married 1992 Linda Lewis: di Oxford 24 November 1998.

Aisha Abdul-Rahman

AISHA ABDUL-RAHMAN was Egypt's leading female Islamic El-Qalamawy, who presented writer and scholar. She was unusual in being a women's rights advocate who adhered to Islamic role-model for modern women bephilosophy - which is often interpreted as anti-women. She leaves some 40 books on Islamic scripture: a body of literary criticism: a dozen novels and short-story anthologies: as well as hundreds of research papers. magazine articles and newspaper columns.

She enjoyed a 60-year career as a columnist, starting in 1937 when, as a 24-year-old undergraduate, she joined Al-Ahram, then as now the Middle East's oldest and best-known Arabic daily. Abdul-Rahman adopted a subtle style: she didn't join women's groups or take part in feminist marches, yet her writing and lectures in support of sexual equality enlightened many young Egyptian women in their struggle.

She was in harmony with the early Egyptian feminist movement that reached a political peak during the 1919 revolution against the British military presence and Ottoman influence. In her last published interview earlier this year she called for the re-evaluation of Egypt's feminist movement, accusing it of "wasting its energy on a war

against the other sex". She often covered her head with a scarf, yet didn't encourage other women to do so. Instead she advocated choice for the individual, unusually among Islamic writers who so often follow the totalitarian concept that Islam is not just a faith but a way of life. She rejected the idea propagated by the (male) Muslim clergy that women are inferior. She often tackled daring subjects which ner fellow writers – all men – steered clear of. Her excellent study of the women in the life of the prophet Mohamed is a case in point.

As with her contemporary Soheir Scheherazade, the heroine of One Thousand and One Nights, as a cause she won her struggle by reeducating men rather than fighting them, Abdul-Rahman's feminist examples came from the classical works of literature of the early Islamic empire. One example was her celebrated 1950 study of the 10thcentury Rissalat-el Guphran ("The Mission of Remission") by the poetphilosopher Abulala el-Mearri, which is believed to be the basis of Dante's Divina Commedia

Abdul-Rahman would strip classical works to the bone before adding contemporary flesh to present a subtle feminist message of equality and role models. Her works included a modern reading of the Koran, which Muslims believe is the word of God. This was a daring challenge to the patriarchal Islamic es-tablishment who usually condemn even men who touch on the subject as blasphemous. But Abdul-Rahman's clever style of philosophy disarmed her would-be critics.

She was born in 1913, in the Nile Delta town of Dammietta, to a conservative father who taught at a theology institute attached to the ancient Al-Azhar Islamic University (part of the official Muslim Church; its ruling reaching beyond Egypt's borders). Her great-grandfather was the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, the equivalent of Archbishop of Can-

terbury in the Church of England. While left-wing and secular fem-inists in Alexandria and Cairo became active suffrage campaigners in the years after the First World War, Abdul-Rahman, isolated in her home town and by strict religious family pressure, stayed at home for her primary and secondary educa-tion. Her father, in her own words.



She often covered her head with a scarf, yet didn't encourage other women to do so. Unusually, she advocated choice for the individual

belonged to a generation who "did not like women, and was against the idea of girls leaving the sanctuary of the home to attend school". She also acquired a couple of diplomas by correspondence, including in 1929 the first teacher's

the conservative Al-Azhar Univer-

sity, which only allowed women on

qualification awarded to a woman by

the campus some 35 years later. Finally, at the age of 21, she began to Islamic literature. attend King Faud University (which in 1954 changed its name to Cairo University), where she read Islam-

ic history and Arabic literature. Abdul-Rahman's early years of struggle for her right to education forced her to acquire scholarly discipline. Her writing was always objective, respecting the right of others

Her first published article, in a local paper in 1935, dealt with the social disadvantages of Egyptian peasants, and outraged her family. But her grandfather encouraged her to publish two other pieces in the Al-Nahda al-Nesaeiyah ("Female Renaissance" magazine) under the pen-name Bint el Shate, "child of the shore" - her birthplace was the shore of Dammietta where the eastern branch of the Nile opens to the Mediterranean. She used the name Bint el Shate for the rest of her life. She went on to edit Al-Nahda al-Nesaeiyah while still at university.

Two years after beginning to write for the prestigious Al-Ahrum. in 1939, Abdul-Rahman graduated. The editor, Antoine el-Gamile, placed her desk in his own office, since she was the only woman apart from his secretary - on the en-tire staff. Within a few years she had become a household name.

Her literary criticism was remarkably objective for a scholar of Islamic teaching. Publishers and authors feared her sharp pen, which showed no mercy as it attacked nepotism, and sexist and reactionary writers. As a parliamentary sketchwriter she managed to upset a number of cabinet ministers during the multi-party liberal democratic system which ended with Nasser's military coup in 1952. But she remained attached to academe, gaining her masters degree in 1941

and her PhD in 1951, both in early

When Nasser's military government, which nationalised the national press, banned the holding of two jobs, she chose the post she had occupied since 1962 as a professor of Arabic and Islamic studies at Ain Shams University in Cairo. However. Nasser's friend Mohamed Haikal, the editor of Al-Ahram, managed to retain her as a columnist and consultant for its highly regarded weekly literary review.

She was one of a handful who escaped the institutionalised censorship of Nasser's dictatorship. She was also awarded a number of state literary and academic awards under three different regimes.

At her funeral in Cairo, Egypt's great novelist and Nobel prizewin-ner Naguib Mahfouz recalled how he was impressed by her first novel. The Sinned Woman (1953). Later he turned it into a screenplay for the film-maker Salah Abu Sief, the Egyptian cinema's father of realism. Like her other works, the story touched upon social injustices and the suffering of women, especially in the semi-feudal countryside.

Aisha Abdul-Rahman was married to another great scholar, the contemporary Islamic philosopher Sheik Amin el-Khouli, who super vised her masters studies. She cailed him "my soul mate" and "the other part of my spiritual being". He died in 1973.

ADEL DARWISH

Aisha Abdul-Rahman, Islamic scholar and writer: born Dammietta, Egypi 18 November 1913; Head of Arabic and Islamic studies, Ain Shams University 1972; married 1947 Amin el-Khouli (died 1973; one son, one daughter, and one son deceased); died Cairo 1 December 1998.

Kavi Pradeep KAVI PRADEEP was the writer of

hugely popular patriotic songs which drove the British colonial government to distraction, forcing him to go underground during the freedom movement in the Forties. More than a decade after inde-

pendence, in 1962, Pradeep wrote the song "Aaye mere watan ke logo" ("Come my countrymen"), which helped to instil a sense of national pride after India's humiliating defeat by the Chinese army over a territorial dispute, when the entire country was overwhelmed by a sense of ennui and loss of prestige. It moved millions, including the prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru, to tears. Pradeep donated the royalties from this song - which is frequently heard even today at private and official gatherings - to the ministry

In a career spanning over five decades Pradeep wrote nearly 1,700 songs, hymns and fiery, nationalistic poems including the lyrics for some 85 films, many of them boxoffice hits because of his contribution. But it was for his patriotic songs like "Door hat duniya walon . . . Hin-dustan hamara hai" ("Go away outsiders. India is ours"), influenced by militant freedom fighters such as Bhagat Singh and Chandrashekhar Azad who were responsible for assassinating British officials, that Pradeep was best known,

During the Quit India movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi against the colonial government in 1942, Pradeep, by then an established film songwriter in Bollywood, India's film capital city of Bombay, wrote a string of nationalistic songs in films like Kismet ("Fate") that became instant hits and infuriated the British who considered them seditious. Although warrants were issued for his arrest. Pradeep managed to evade detention.

Born Ramchandra Barayanji Dwivedi in 1915 into a middle-class Brahmin family in the small central Indian town of Badnagar, in Madhya Pradesh state, he changed his name to Pradeep (meaning light) and moved to Bombay in 1939 after graduating from Lucknow University in the north. Pradeep made his début as a lyricist in the film Kan-

gan ("Gold Bangle"), which estab-lished his credentials as a popular songwriter. After a string of successful hits, in 1958 he was honoured by the record company His Master's Voice who produced an album containing 13 of his songs; three years later he won several awards including Best Film Song Lyricist. Soon after he was made Rashtrakavi, or Poet Laureate, after which he became known as Kavi ("poet") Pradeep. He was pro-

lific till the mid-1980s, when old age and a newer crop of songwriters

more interested in gimmickry than

substance forced him into retirement, virtually forgotten by a once adoring public. Last year Kavi Pradeep was remembered again when Lata Man-gaeshkar. India's best known singer, announced that he had won a 100,000 rupee award (around £1,430) for his contribution to Indian cinema and went personally to his house to hand over the money Thereafter, the government conferred Pradeep with the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Award for a lifetime of

cided fittingly with India's 50th anniversary of independence. KULDIP SINGH

Ramchandra Baryanji Dwivedi (Kavi Pradeep), songwriter and poet: born Badnagar, Madhya Pradesh 6 February 1915; married (two daughters); died Bombay 11

achievement in films, which coin-

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Robert Marasco

ONE OF the most exciting things that all parts of the second of the can occur in the theatre is the unexpected triumph of a new play by an 3 unknown author, and that happened on the night of 17 November 1970 when Robert Marasco's chilling Child's Play opened at the Royale Theatre on Broadway. The story of demonically sinister doings at a Catholic boys' school. it had the first-night audience calling for the author at its finish, received a rave review in The New York Times. and went on to win Tonys for its director, its designer and two of its actors, Fritz Weaver and Ken Howard. Its success enabled Marasco to give up his job as a classics teacher to concentrate on writing, though none of his subsequent work enjoyed as much success as Child's Play.

Born in the Bronx. New York in 1936. Marasco was educated at Regis High School and Fordham University: A classical scholar, he became a teacher of languages at Regis, but was anxious to make clear that his play was not based on reality, naming as his inspiration two sources - a newspaper clipping about a teacher who gave his kids some work to do and then jumped out of a window' and the Swedish film Hets (Frenzy, 1944), written by Ingmar Bergman, which featured "a sadistic Latin

Originally entitled The Dark, the play was produced by David Merrick, at the time the most powerful and prolific producer on Broadway, and directed by Joseph Hardy, whose imaginative staging, with several well-paced shock effects, was generally regarded as a key factor in the play's success, along with Joe Mielziner's superb scenery and lighting - the play was set in a starkly Gothic faculty room with dark wood and mullion windows.

When Hardy and the author had first met, Hardy asked Marasco what his aim was in writing the play. "To scare the hell out of everybody" was the reply, to which Hardy responded, You're on." Hardy then suggested extensive rewriting, including a new ending, and guided by the experienced director the author rewrote nearly half the play. The work paid off with the triumphant first night and reviews which, though mixed, included a rave from the Jew York Times critic Clive Barnes who described it as "genuine Grand Guignol theatre" that "will thrill audiences for a long time to come". John J. O'Connor in The Wall Street Journal countered by commenting.

Instead of building to a suspenseful break-ing point, it runs disastrously downhill with a conclusion that attempts to be profound but is virtually meaningless.

Though audiences enjoyed the play. the most often-heard comment as they left the theatre afterwards was "Did I miss something?", and the play's weaknesses were seemingly more expoparent when it opened in London, where, directed by Hardy, it had only



James Mason stars in Sidney Lumet's film Child's Play, 1972, based on Marasco's 1970 play

a brief run at the Queen's Theatre in

Paramount, who only two years earlier had made huge profits with the diabolically themed Rosemary's Baby. acquired the film rights and agreed to let Merrick make his début as a movie producer on the film.

It was a troubled production from the

Lumet was signed as director, in part because he had established a good rapport with Brando while filming The Fugitive Kind. But when Brando asked for script revisions ("he saw the holes in the story and lack of logic," said Lumet) the cost-conscious Merrick objected and Brando withdrew from the film to be replaced by Robert Preston.

When Joseph Hardy first met Marasco, he asked him what his aim was in writing Child's Play. 'To scare the hell out of everybody,' said Marasco

start. Both Alfred Hitchcock and Joe Mankiewicz were interested in directing it, but the studio's production chief Robert Evans vetoed them as "over the hill". Merrick then suggested William Friedkin, also vetoed by Evans (Friedkin instead accepted Fox's offer to direct The French Connection). With the

Lumet said of the temperamental Merrick, "David thrives on conflict, but I do not feel as he does that tension is a spur to creativity." Merrick also clashed with Evans, who was unhappy that the film's fidelity to the original had kept it stuffily stagebound, and when the film was finished it was, according to James Mason cast in the leads, Sidney lease". Lumet commented, "It was a

shame the film was given such scant distribution because it carried with it a great performance by Mason as the persecuted Latin master suspected of paranoia.

In 1973 Marasco published his first novel, Burnt Offerings, another sinister tale of a family who find that the house they have rented for the summer is haunted. The author later stated that he originally had thought of himself as a comedy writer, and said of Burnt Offerings, "I thought it would be a black comedy, but it just came out black." In 1976 it was filmed with Bette Davis and Oliver Reed in the cast but was considered a turgid example of an overworked genre. "I said I'd never do another horror film after Baby Jane." commented Davis, "and here I am in the iggest horror of them all!"

Marasco also wrote a novel, Parlor Games (1979), and several unproduced screenplays. Before his death, he had completed a new play, Our Sally.

Robert Marasco, playwright: born New York 22 September 1936; died strong pairing of Marlon Brando and James Mason, "trickled out on re- Manhasset, New York 6 December

SOCIOLOGICAL NOTES

Mayhem and myth in the City of Angels

for all of us? After the Los Angeles urban rebellion in 1992, most critical analyses of what had happened focused on the explosive urban cauldron that many saw developing in Southern California at least since the 1960s.

Writers pointed out that the City of Angels was a foreboding of the future of all cities - and metaphorically also of humankind. Los Angeles was portraved as an ungovernable gangland where civility had either never existed or had been destroyed by a sequence of global economic restructuring and catastrophic events. At the opposite end of the spectrum were those "boosters" of Los Angeles who had made the city "LA's the Place" with the Olympics of 1984 and a boom that was built on foreign investment and cheap labour. Following the events of 1992, these boosters did not tire of putting on a happy face where others saw murder and maybem. Their task was to "Rebuild LA", as one organisation that rose from the ashes of the riots was called. Their medium was denial.

Related to these oppositional urban myths, there is yet another set of stories, which paint Los Angeles either as the wallflower of American history - misunderstood and maligned - or as the "first American city' and the model of all urban settlement as we know it

WHERE A lifetime transfer of

the freehold interest in prop-

erty was made to trustees

subject to leases in favour of

the donor, the property was

not subject to a reservation

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The House of Lords allowed

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IS THIS the future in store today. Caught between the dystopian view of some and the Utopian idea of others. Los Angeles became the torn image of all 20th-century urbanism, and to some "the capital of the 21st century".

What is wrong with these pictures? Of course, it is difficult to deny that LA is an unusually violent place full of social and economic contradiction, marred by injustice and conflict. It is also a place where the middle classes have found their natural habitat in what they conceive as the end of history: a good place, sheltered by obscene income differentials and police power.

Yet Los Angeles is also the site of a contradictory civility which is captured by neither of the narratives presented so far. What is missing from most portrayals of Los Angeles is the story of the "other LA", of the majority working-class and people of colour communities where an alternative, and sometimes insurgent, civil society has taken hold. This civil society of everyday social activism has many unseen faces: heroic struggles to keep production places open in the face of globalisation; to save neighbourhoods from the buildozer: to create environmental justice; and to create local government exploring pathways of economic redis-

tribution and social diversity. In order to gaze into our collective urban future, let us entertain the stories of those Angelenos whose lives are on the line in a process called world city formation. In this convulsive phase of urbanisation, the largest post-war industrial company town in the world, built on autos. aerospace, real estate and Hollywood, was transformed into a globalised megalopolis with a Third World proletariat, a high-tech veneer and a simulated nature.

Let us look closely at their struggles in a sea of adversity where it takes a special effort to stay affoat. Let us look at the alternative proposals made for living in the multicultural metropolis of the fu-ture. Out of this changed perspective, a different Los Angeles emerges: a Los Angeles of opportunity to create an everyday insurgency against the ravages of globalisation, against racism and the injustice of immigrant urbanity, and versus the threats of a society without a safety net. In the stories of a Los Angeles where social struggle is the connecting thread, a possible future emerges for us all: a future of an urbanism based on democratic governance, economic justice and grassroots multi-culturalism.

Perhaps this is a future we are willing to learn from Los

Roger Keil is the author of 'Los Angeles: globalization, urbanization and social struggles (John Wiley, £17.99)

GAZETTE

______ BIRTHDAYS

Mr David Abell, former chairman and chief executive, Suter plc, 56; Mr Roy Anderson, chairman emeritus, Lockheed Corporation, 78; Mr Michael Bogdanov, Artistic Director, English Shakespeare Company, 60; Professor Stuart Checkley, psychiatrist, 53; Mr Dave Clark, drummer and founder of the Dave Clark Five, 56; Professor Ivor Crewe, Vice-Chancellor, Essex University, 53; Lord Croham, former hairman, Guinness Peat group, 81; Mr Geoffrey Davies, actor, 57: Mr Frankie Dettori, jockey, 28; Sir Graham Dorey, Bailiff of Guernsey, and a Judge of the Court of Appeal of Jersey, 66: Air Marshal Sir John Fitzpatrick, 69; Miss Ida Haendel, violinist, 74; Mr Gunnar Hägglöf, diplomat, 94; Sir Henry Hardman, former senior civil servant, 93; Mr Oliver Heald MP. 44; Mr Carl Hooper, cricketer, 32; Mr Kevin Hughes MP, an Assistant Whip, 46; Mr Don Johnson, actor, 49; Mr Joe Fordan, footballer, 47; General Sir Frank Kitson, former Commander-in-Chief, UK Land Forces, 72; The

Mr David McMurray, Headmaster, Oundle School, 61; Mr Oscar Niemeyer, architect, 91; Miss Edna O'Brien, novelist, 62; Mr Michael Peart, ambassador to Fiji and British High Commissioner to Kiribati. Nauru and Tuvalu, 55; Mr Brian Roper, Vice-Chancellor, University of North London, 49; Miss Irene Salter, former Headmistress, Durham High School for Girls, 82; Mr Austin Savage, hockey player, 57; Commandant Anne Spencer, former Director, Women's Royal Naval Service, 60; Professor Sir John Meurig Thomas, Master of Peterhouse, Cambridge, 66; Professor Maurice Wilkins, biophysicist, 82.

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Nero, Roman emperor, AD 37; David Teniers the Younger, painter, 1610; George Romney, portrait painter, 1734; Charles Cowden Clarke, Shakespearean scholar, 1787; Jerome Bonaparte, King of Westphalia. youngest brother of Napoleon, 1784; Henry Fothergill Chorley, music critic, librettist and writer, 1808; Alexandre-Gustave Eiffel, engineer, 1832; Sir

Alfred East, painter and etcher, 1849; Antoine-Henri Becquerel, physicist, 1852; Dr Lazarus Ludovic Zamenhof, oculist and creator of Esperanto, 1859; Maxwell Anderson, playwright, 1888; Jean Paul Getty, multimillionaire, 1892: General Sir Miles Christopher Dempsey, 1896.

Deaths: Haakon IV. King of Norway, 1263; Jan Vermeer (Jan van der Meer van Delft), painter, 1675; Isaak Walton, author of The Compleat Angler, 1683; Giuseppe Bossi, painter, 1816; Georg Friedrich Grotefend, classical scholar, 1853; Sir George Cayley, aeronautics pioneer, 1857; Chief Sitting Bull, Sioux Indian leader, killed 1890; Francisco Tarrega, composer, 1909; Thomas Wright "Fats" Waller, jazz pianist, 1943; **Arthur Llewellyn Jones** Machen, writer, 1947; Wolfgang Pauli, physicist, 1958; Charles Laughton, actor, 1962; Walter Elias Disney, cartoonist and creator of Mickey Mouse, 1966.

On this day: the first meteorological recordings were begun in Tuscany, 1654; the states of the American union ratified the Bill of Rights,

Export Council, visits

or Napoleon were interred at Les Invalides, Paris, 1840; the Piccadilly Underground station in London was opened, 1906; the sevenmasted schooner Thomas W. Lawson was lost in the English Channel, 1907; the Battle of Verdun ended, with 700,000 dead (338,000 German, 364,000 Allied soldiers), 1916: the first television play in Britain, Box and Cox, was transmitted, 1928; the Commonwealth of the Philippines was inaugurated, 1935; the premiere of the film Gone With the Wind took place at Atlanta, Georgia, 1939; the General Assembly of the United Nations voted to admit the Chinese People's Republic, 1961; in Israel, Adolf Eichmann was found guilty of crimes against the Jewish people, 1961; the first production of the musical show Charlie Girl took place in London, 1965; food riots broke out in Poland, 1970; John Paul Getty III was released by kidnappers who had held him for five months and cut off his ear,

1791; the remains of Emper-

Today is the Feast Day of St Mary di Rosa, St Nino, St Paul of Latros and St

LECTURES

section 102 of the Finance National Gallery: Rebecca Act 1986. Accordingly, on the death of the donor within Lyons, "Mirrors (iii): Rubens, The Judgement of Paris", seven years of the gift, the property would be valued for Victoria and Albert the purposes of inheritance Museum: Clare Ford Willie. tax at the time of the gift. "Rococo Portraiture". and not at the time of the donor's death. British Museum: Delia Pemberton, "The Cosmic the appeal of the executors of Buddhas", 11.30am. Lady Ingram against the deci-

National Portrait Gallery:

John Cooper, "Von that inheritance tax was Herkomer's Portraits of payable on the value at the date Lords Kitchener and Badenof her death of property she had Powell", 1.10pm. given in trust for her children and grandchildren. Wallace Collection, London W1: David Edge, "Arms and On 29 March 1987 Lady Ingram conveyed property to her Armour", 1pm. Leicester University: solicitor, to hold as her nominee. On 30 March the solicitor grant-Professor Connor Duggan, ed her leases of different parts "Personality Disorder: the proper study of psychiatry?", of the property for 20 years rent free. On 31 March the solicitor. 5.30pm. at Lady Ingram's direction, conveyed the property, subject to the leases, to trustees to hold

DINNERS

The Maccabaeans Sir John Balcombe, President of the Maccabaeans. presided at the annual

children and grandchildren. Chanukah Dinner held yesterday evening at the Great Hall, Lincoln's Inn, WC2. Mr Nicholas Snowman was the guest speaker. Sir Ian Gainsford and Lady Mary Marre

Lady Ingram died less than seven years after the gift, which was thus not an exempt transfer under section 3A of the Inheritance Tax Act 1984. The Commissioners of Inland Revenue determined that section 102 of the Finance Act 1986 applied, and that the property would therefore be deemed to form part of Lady Ingram's estate at her death, and tax would

IN DISCUSSING William Hague's shortcomings. Auberon Waugh remarks that he appeals to "dodgy second-hand car dealers and garagistes from Essex. but this is a type with which nobody else identifies and nobody admires".

be payable on its value at that

time, rather than at the time of

the gift. The value of the prop-

Mr Hague might wince, but the rest of us can take it as a sign that the word will

TUESDAY LAW REPORT

Property to be valued

at time of gift

15 DECEMBER 1998 Ingram and another v

Commissioners of Inland Revenue House of Lords (Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Steyn, Lord Hoffmann, Lord Clyde and Lord Hutton) 10 December 1998

erty at the time of the death was, by reason of the sharp rise in property prices, much higher than in 1987.

Lady Ingram's executors appealed directly to the High Court. The judge found that the original grant of the leases had been invalid because a nominee could not grant a lease to his beneficiary any more than a man could grant a lease to himself. However, that did not mean that the leasehold interest which J had acquired against the trustees at the moment after the freehold had been transferred to them was a benefit reserved within section 102, since there had been no point of time at which the trustees and beneficiaries had held the property otherwise than subject to the leasehold

interests The Court of Appeal, by a majority, held that it was conceptually impossible for a lease to come into existence until the lessor had acquired the freehold interest. It followed that

the gift must have been the unencumbered freehold interest and that the lease must have been a benefit reserved out of it. The executors appealed. Robert Venables QC, Simon Taube and Amanda Hardu (Charles Russell) for the executors: Edward Nugee QC and Michael Furness (Solicitor of

Inland Revenue) for the Crown.

Lord Hoffmann said that "property" in section 102 of the Finance Act 1986 was not something which had physical existence like a house, but was rather a specific interest in that property, a legal construct, which could co-exist with other interests in the same physical object. The section did not therefore prevent people from deriving benefit from the object in which they had given away an interest: it applied only when they derived the benefit from that interest.

The policy of section 102 was to require people to define precisely the interests which they were giving away and the interests, if any, which they were retaining. Accepting that as the policy, there could be no doubt that the interest retained by Lady Ingram was a proprietary interest defined with the necessary precision.

Looking at the real nature of the transaction in the instant case there was no doubt that the trustees and beneficiaries had never at any time acquired the land free of Lady Ingram's leasehold interest. The need for a conveyance to be followed by a lease back was a mere matter of conveyancing form. KATE O'HANLON

ROYAL **ENGAGEMENTS**

Rev Dr Una Kroll, Deacon

of the Church in Wales, 73;

The Queen meets a group of embroiderers, and views their ornaments on the Christmas Tree in the Picture Gallery at Buckingham Palace (the ornaments will then be put on view at the Victoria and Albert Museum. before being auctioned by

Phillips in aid of a children's charity). The Duke of Edinburgh, Master, Trinity House, attends a Service of Thanksgiving for the work of the Lighthouse Keepers over the centuries at St Olave's Church, London EC3, followed by a dinner for Lighthouse Keepers at Trinity House, London EC3. The Princess Royal, President, British Knitting and Clothing

Duchamp, Warple Way, London W3; opens the Crown Street Surgery, London W3; as President, Save the Children Fund, attends the launch of the Millennium Award Scheme - Saying Power, at the Cafe Royal, London W1; and, as President, Animal Health Trust. attends their Christmas Event at Banqueting House,

London SW1. Princess Margaret, Patron Grosvenor Chapel Restoration Appeal attends a Carol Concert in the Grosvenor Chapel, London W1, in aid of the Appeal and the Home Farm Trust. The Duke of Kent. Patron. Classic FM Charitable Trust. attends the Christmas Concert at Westminster Abbey, London SW1. Princess Alexandra, President.

al Cancer Research Fund at St Paul's Cathedral, London EC4.

attends a Christmas Carol

Concert in aid of the Imperi-

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavairy

Horse Guards, 11am.

Mounted Regiment mounts

the Queen's Life Guard at

WORDS CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE

garagiste, n.

have a revival as a neat term for the proprietor of a filling-station. The OED credits The Observer in 1928 with the first importing of self, with coining Sod's Law.

the French - and with a final, 1967 instance: "the garagiste greeted the news with the tired smile of those accustomed to dealing with the ignorant". A fine phrase, whose author merits record. Why does the OED omit these? Richard Boston was galled that it credits the New Statesman, not him-

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Bring out your daughters



that I must go to a party with my 16-year-old crazy. The last party I went to with Gillian was nerve-racking. It is the only time that I have actually wanted there to be name-tags, so I could just put "Under-Age" on hers. Perhaps this would have stopped all those men who kept asking her how "uni" was going. "GCSEs," I wanted to shout. "Not even A-levels! Too young!" Instead, of course. I smiled and waited for the drinks tray. to unhappiness. This shuts me up. The pattern was set. Gillian had a brilliant time. I did not.

My editor is not impressed. party accessory of the season. Who says? Vogue, as it turns out. "It will be fun," she tells me. "You will be just like Jerry Hall." Obviously, I say. Later I find myself saying to Gillian: her daughter Elizabeth." Gillian looks at me, turns on her heel, and walks into her room.

I take that as a "yes" and start organising. I suggest a literary soirée. "Salman Rushdie will be there," I say. "And maybe even Bob Geldof." Gillian looks at me, turns and walks into her room. Event after event receives this treatment. Finally I realise that only pop stars or supermodels will do. "What about the Smash Hits party?" I ask. "REALLY? YES! COOL!!!" she cries and runs into her room, only to return a minute later to ask whether she should cut all the Top Shop labels out of her clothes

Pre-party preparations

Sunday dawns, and the party mood is elusive. I have to fight the hordes at Sainsbury's as the only food in the house is a limp lettuce and some sellby-date-expired yoghurt. Plus I have to find a Christmas tree. I wonder briefly whether it would be easier to grow one myself. After a decade, i would never have to do this again. I rush around like a loony. Gillian tells me not to be late and asks if Γ m wearing nail polish. At 1pm I drag of the car the misshapen free. which is already losing needles. By 1.30om I am ready for the party, which I will have to attend without nail polish. Sadly.

I've asked Gillian to keep a diary. This is her first entry: "It's the day. I'm looking forward to it even if I'm going with my mum. The first thing

Time was when girls would rather die than party with Mum. Not now, though. As Ann Treneman told her daughter as she dragged her kicking and screaming into the night

she said was 'Will Who?' The fact absolutely hate and which Gillian abthat she doesn't even know who Will Smith is leads me to believe I may have to spend the party telling her daughter. I look who they all are. Oh well. Better go, at her as if she is I've just smudged my nail polish!"

On the way, Gillian tells me that ling" or "pumpkin". I tell her that I'm sure Jerry Hall does not have to operate under such instructions. Gillian tells me that her art teacher says that we should never compare ourselves to anyone, that each one of us is unique and that competition leads

The London Arena is full of kids Daughters, she says, are the hot dressed for a gym work-out. Gillian says we have to go to the loo and immediately heads for the men's. "Is it normal to go to the men's?" I ask, thinking of all those theatre intervals where all of us women wait, meekly, "We will be just like Jerry Hall and for half an hour while the men just whip in and out of their loo, "Oh, yes," she says. "Especially if there is a queue." Amazing. This is Girl Power

> The Arena is a zoo inside. "I may be the oldest person here," I say to Gillian. She looks around and says: "I may be the oldest person here." We sit or, more accurately, vibrate in our seats to the stomping of zillions of teeny-boppers. Gillian stands up but doesn't jump up and down. Or scream. Thank God. She has to tell me who all the performers are. "B*Witched," she writes on my pad, rolling her eyes. "5ive," she writes. Five of what? I ask. "THEM!" she shouts in my ear. I look. It's a group. I feel dreadful. This is middle age. I am not having fun.

> Gillian is. "It's begun!" she writes. "There is non-stop screaming. Warm-up guys are whipping us into a frenzy. I'm trying to stay cool. TV madness begins. Every time the overhead camera sweeps over everyone screams, including me. Mum is looking very puzzled when 5ive take the stage. I start dancing Mum is sitting down. I promptly

stop. I feel a nightmare coming on." My next memory is of hearing a voice mat i recos I shout. Gillian ignores me. "My Meatloaf!" I cry, seeing the man who always looks as if he is impersonating a refrigerator on stage. Gillian says she feels as if she is in the Twilight Zone. I have no idea what she is talking about. The photographer arrives to take our photo, which I Gaye all the way home."

solutely loves. She writes: "Everyone is rushing to stand next to me. Instant popularity at the flash of the button. I should always accessorise in this way. Photo-session continues while my favourite group comes on -Another Level. I nearly faint when I see Dane. How uncool am I?"

At the time I didn't realise why Gillian kept going on about going to another level. Now I know. Oh well, hy this time the event had lapsed into one long screaming session. The boy groups are all wearing calf-length leather coats. Do they think they are in a James Bond movie? Or perhaps appearing with Sly and the Family Stone? One group wears all black, another all white. They walk around in a circle, their coats

Billie - whom I do recognise - is crowned the Princess of Pop. She is wearing a Heidi costume. Gilli n is looking tired. I a. k her if she is enjoying herself. She says that she hates Aqua-Yuck. My first thought is of toothpaste but by now I realise that this must

The party is saved when I hear a familiar tune. "Tragedy"! Seventies disco! YES! I jump out of my seat. I definitely know the hand-signals to this one. Or at least I know the hand-signals I learnt in 1979. I see from Gillian's diary that this was too much. "I am very embarrassed," she writes, "and

hide it by swaying."

The aftermath We head to the car. Everyone is smiling, and wearing those shoes which appear to be attached to mini-trampolines. I am not smiling, because my head hurts. Gillian can have the last word. After Mum looks like she's been through a nightmare. Everybody is screaming at the stars leaving in their limos. I'm not a fanatical person, so I walk to the car. I point out to Mum that Jerry Hall's kids never have to sit in the back and endure Marvin





Above: Jerry Hall and Elizabeth Jagger. Below: Twiggy and Carly Whitney All Action; Richard Young; FNP; Tom Craig



When money's too tight to mention

Red phone bills and raised voices, but Ian's real problem is the nightlife – or lack of it. By Cayte Williams



LEONA vas studying Maths

RACHAEL

studying



ROSIE

studying



DAVID studying



TASH studying



ALIŞTAIR studying vlanagement



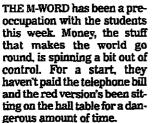
studying Biology

IAN

studying



ROBBIE studying



It's not that no one wants to pay it. It's just a case of highlighter-pen paralysis. As anyone who's ever lived with nine people and one telephone will know, working out the bill is horrendous. It's a laborious process where each person highlights their calls, initials them and argues about the ones left over. The process can take months.

Ian, by sheer force of will. has got most of the house to work out what they owe and write their cheques. "It's only Leona who hasn't, and I've told her enough times," he says. "As soon as she works out what she owes, we can send off the cheques."

Ian, the no-nonsense Yorkshire boy, has had rather a week for straight-talking. Not only has he told Leona off but he and Rachael have not been seeing eye-to-eye. "About two days ago I'd just come back from work and she was in the living room going on and on about the landlord," he explains. "I started shouting at her and stuff. I said: 'I've got enough to worry about, and where I live is the last thing on my mind.' The house isn't bad, you know, but now it's all

become worse." The landlord seems to be

THIS STUDENT LIFE



Week 8 at the **MANCHESTER** STUDENT HOUSE

dents, the only way that land-lords can. "He's sending the estate agent around to check the state of the place, and if it's not right, he's going to charge us £100 for professional cleaners." says Ian. "And now the council tax people have been around because he's grassed us up. He was so nice at the beginning but now he's going against everything we do. I know Rachael had good intentions, but she took it too far."

The irony of it all is not wasted on Rachael, who only really wanted value for money. "I'm thinking of moving out," she says, "but I wouldn't go until everyone was safe here. Ian is full of remorse. "I really regretted the argument afterwards," he admits, "and getting his revenge on the stu-Rachael's been very touchy



Saturday night in Peruvia: 'Cheesy music for rich folk,' says Ian Martin Rickett

since." Everyone else has kept their distance from the landlord problem as they know Rachael is doing her best, but no one feels the pressures of earning money more than Ian.

Still, a nice little group outing on Saturday night was a great comfort. Peruvia, Manchester's swankiest club, proved that money might buy you a nice house, but it can't furnish you with taste in music. "It was cheesy music for rich people," says Ian in dis-gust. "I'd never been to a place like that before. It was more

like a hotel than a nightclub." David even dyed his hair orange and sprayed it with glitter, but then he was expecting to have a little more fun than the Gucci-clad crowd allowed. "It was ridiculously posey,"

he exclaims. "You could smell the money. I'd never go back again. The blokes all looked like body builders, the women were gorgeous, and the music was rubbish." Peruvia is home In fact, the city is crying out to Manchester United foot-

As far as our students are concerned, they can keep it. Unfortunately, there's not much choice in Manchester. It was the clubbing legend, The Hacienda, that gave the city its reputation as a nightclub capital, but now there are few good places to go. "That is because of the Moss Side and

ballers, models and soap stars.

Cheatham Hill gangs," explains Robbie. "The gang culture got to the clubs which were then closed down because of guns and drugs. Now everyone goes to Liver-

Ŷ**(#**\$} 😡 ●

pool, Leeds and Sheffield, Manchester still has a reputation as club heaven, but it's just not true any more."

for somewhere decent that doesn't cost an arm and a leg. Which leads us on to Dave's new project. Like Alistair, he's turning into a Student Entrepreneur. "My friend Tom and I have formed a club promotions company called Cosmic Hole," he says proudly, "and we're doing our first themed night at Elemental, one of the few new clubs in Manchester, on Wednesday. It's called Mistletoe Madness and vodka, peach schnapps, Bacardi and tequila will all be a pound."

Everyone hopes it will be a success. At least he'll be quicker at paying the phone bill.

THE JOYS OF MODERN LIFE

24. COFFEE BY LAURA THOMPSON

I CAN go on the equivalent of a pub crawl, in which caffeine replaces alcohol as the wicked stimulant, by walking the short distance between my flat and Notting Hill Gate. Start at Cullens with two nice, smooth caffé lattes. followed up by an espresso at Maison Blanc. Now on to the heavy stuff. At Starbucks, a tall, skinny

capp with extra froth and cinnamon topping. At Coffee Republic, a grande iced semimochaccino plus shot of caramel syrup. Finally, at the Seattle Coffee House, a triple goliath macchiato with banana-flavoured Nesquik and a cocktail umbrella. Here, shuddering like a plugged-in Black and Decker I raise my brimming paper cup and toast those brave pioneers who believed that not everyone in Britain is obsessed with PG Tips.

It is hard, for a coffee-lover to imagine life without these magnificent establishments. yet only a few years ago a canouccino was regarded as a suspect foreign confection and the British drank Mellow Birds for their elevenses.

Those were the days of "coffee shops", in which the coffee tasted of groats, of a half-teaspoon of Nescafe dissolved in parboiled water. of liquidised Terry's All Gold coffee creams mixed with gravy granules...

Then, of course, you went abroad. On the Champs-Elysées you tasted rich, hot brews, dark and full-bodied as Beatrice Dalle. In the Piazza Navona you played excitedly with the foam on a cappuccino; at Florian's you



swooned at the wonderfully adult milkshake that is the caffe latte. In New York, you drank the most delicious concoction known to man: the iced and creamy frappuccino. Admittedly each of these cost about a fiver, but my God, was it worth it. You returned to Britain sneering and despairing.

Of course, sophisticates have always complained about our coffee. In literature, cosmopolitan types such as Hercule Poirot bewail the "muddy liquid" offered to them. But people put up with it, presumably because tea was the stuff of life and coffee merely an exotic aside; the idea that it might taste

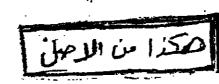
sublime was unknown. Closer ties with Europe, foreign travel and Frasier have all played their part in giving me my morning cafe crawl. Nor is this just a city phenomenon: the best cappuccino in Europe - and I write as an independent expert, with all the jitters to prove it - can be drunk at Luigi's of Leighton Buzzard. So why does coffee on the Eurostar taste like something made by Mrs Overall?

Tuthere's .10 Dissing adente de non't need En elloutere that de All is such é Pag sere of house, Mark to be a second The location of the same *े*ं ०००० तीमहरू Pagement : a nis weapon the decised with the same of in the h The because a 2 200d-bu-

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ing this was enthe measured open. While the first en clear this was serpression where Signer then sheer to held ever Great chords recalled gret beloved cathedral iparp clear woodthrough the sur. please iber



Since 1972, the Alternative Miss World has mocked the original pageant, while celebrating the brave, the bizarre and the beautiful. It's an extravaganza of style, sex and cheap sensation. And Judith Palmer took part

More wardrobe than Ikea

these," sighs Burnel, trying to ease a 20-ft padded appliqué Christmas pudding over his head. "Now I've got flu, and a little piece of elitter stuck under my eyelid," he adds tearfully. "There's just no space, backstage, and by the time you've squeezed past everyone to get on stage, all your costumes are completely ruined."

Last year, Burnel (known among the world of clubland costumiers as "Transformer") achieved a certain notoriety as Miss Moneypenny. standing against Martin Bell and Neil Hamilton at Tatton in the general election. Tonight, he's squished into the vestry of a high camp neo-Gothic church in east London, in the hope of retaining his title as the reigning Alternative Miss World. Created by Andrew Logan, a

sculptor-jeweller, in 1972, the Alternative Miss World Contest is an occasional spectacle of costumely ingenuity and performing brilliance. teasing out the talents of drag queens, artists, fashion designers and sundry folk of large personality in a gigantic, surreal art event said to have been modelled more on Crufts than on the Eric and Julia beauty pageant. That didn't stop the original Miss World organisation from serving Logan an injunction in 1979. Lord Denning wisely decided in Logan's favour, suggesting it was unlikely that anyone was in any danger of confusing the two events.

Logan's ruder, sparklier and wittier alternative does, however, share the same sections of daywear, swimwear and eveningwear, with catwalk promenade plus personality interview. Open to contestants of either gender, it's been won only once by a woman (Jenny Runacre, Miss National Geographic, 1986). It has, though, been won by a robot (Bruce Lacey's Miss Rosa Bosom, 1985), and, in 1975, by Derek Jarman as Miss Crèpe Suzette. "It's to do with what you can

create, rather than how you were created," explains a first-time contestant, Piers Atkinson (assistant to designer Zandra Rhodes in his day job). "You can take beauty into your young theatrical costume maker) is itely delicate lad from Armenia, is own hands," he explains, unsnarling attempting to negotiate the cage of a chimp of black wig from his severe, "I presented the orb to the winner Burnel's previous flaming triumph dragon's head have stopped her as Joan of Arc, "so I'm hoping I took noticing the twin obstacles up ahead

manager, grabbing a megaphone. and to deduce, from a Philippe "Big cossie coming through!" NumStarck lemon squeezer! and an act-



Amy Lamé, and contestents (including, bottom right, Judith Palmer) at the Alternative Miss World

ber 18, gold-painted Miss Natasha ivated gas-powered flame thrower. Narcotica (Anna Zolotuhina, a her huge wicker crinoline tail lug-hole-shaped swimwear outfit. through a very small door. The wafts of frankincense billowing last year," he confides, describing round her opium-poppy-decorated of a Mad Max warrior wielding a "Get back!" screeches a stage pointy metal weapon (made, I haz-

Number two, Haick, an exquisgetting twitchy. Slinky metal shower-hosing, entwined with roses, encircles his head like a bridal coronet, and his fragile wire mesh eyelids quiver in anticipation, and he gesticulates frantically to his attend-

dated 1861. "Imagine how special I padour. "But everyone's so helpful, feel, walking around with something of such value," he whispers. Crispy, a tall, skinny Tellytubby

dressed in a yellow rubber, flarecuffed, all-in-one bodysuit, canters past on his flowery scooter, almost gown floats off into a 10-ft train. The crashing into the chain-mailed the first one." explains Logan's sisslender yellow feathers glued to his roller-skating Miss Bermuda team. ter Janet, who has entered each of "I thought it would be much more the 10 AMW contests (Logan's mum cut-throat, with everyone concen- is always among the judges). ant, who rushes over to give him a trated on their own thing," says Tonight's overall theme is "The spray of Guerlain. Around his throat Rochelle, steadying her towering Void", and Janet has come in purhangs a necklace of silver roubles raspberry ripple Mr Whippy porn- dah as Miss MT Place. "At first it

and having a laugh. This old lady doesn't speak English," she says, pointing at a gurning 75-year-old woman with a quiff in a frothy ball-

gown. "But we've been smiling." "It's still every bit as chaotic as

Emma Boam

was a matter of what you could do with what you had in your wardrobe, and a packet of crepe paper. In 1981 we were in the Grand Hall in Ohmpia, when the contest was won by Miss Aldershot (Michael Havnes: He was supported by the BBC Chorus and the band of the Irish Guards. And now, of course, there are all these Russians..."

There are five Russian entrants (plus one Finn and one Irishman) among the 22 contestants. Like everyone else, they are responsible for all their own travel and costume costs. This unlikely invasion is largely due to the prior success of Andrey Bartenev, a Siberian avantgarde artist (and reigning runnerup). Bartenev, who does not believe in travelling light, has come with eight wooden crates full of giant papier-mache wearable objects. Miss Help Russia is, like many, no single person, but a team tableau, Beachwear involves four rigid 8-ft mummy-cases, painted like demonic jelly babies and stuffed with bouncing claustrophobes: for daywear a sublimely gorgeous 24-yearold cartoonist called Volodya is strapped on all fours into a scale model of the Kremlin; when eveningwear calls, Bartenev himself staggers out under a blue-and-red, butterfly-winged construction, studded with cigarette-puffing lips.

To work with Barteney, you need courage, happiness and a clear mind," grimaces Volodya, as a buckle catches his nipple. The costumes are hysterically funny and radiantly colourful, but have not been selected for ease of movement, and need on-stage helpers to stop them from toppling over. This is why I now find myself prancing up the runway towards the judges (who include Brian Eno and Anita Roddick) trussed up in a blue Cellophane cosmonaut outfit, wielding a heavy; star-topped staff in one hand while supporting Bartenev's codpiece in the other.

Dignified, dukely, dressed in his traditional half-male, half-female robes. Logan brings on the shimmering crown jewels... and awards them to the grinning 4-ft-tall 75-yearold from Moscow, Miss Pani Bronya.

"I was looking for something sexy and funny at the same time - that's the biggest turn-on of all," explains the judge. Maggi Hambling. "But that extraordinary grande dame sig nified everything best in the human spirit. That's what the Alternative Miss World is all about. Joy."

The next Alternative Miss World is

Sadly second rate

CLASSICAL

CHARLES IVES
BOURNEMOUTH SO
POOLE

THE INDISPOSITION of Kees Bakels, the Dutch chief guest conductor of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra for the last 10 years, created more of a problem than usual in Poole on Wednesday, since the programme repeated in Exeter and Portsmouth on Thursday and Friday – included Charles Ives's Second Symphony.

This early, delightful amalgam of Brahms and Dvorak, with American tunes steadily stirred into the mixture to make it rise to some glorious moments of mayhem is repertoire material in its home country, but I can't recall ever hearing it in concert here. Richard Bernas -American, and known chiefly as a conductor of contemporary music - bravely took on the full programme as advertised.

An all-Beethoven first half didn't get things off to a good start. A raw and rhythmically rocky "Namensfeier" Overture was followed by the Violin Concerto, in which the soloist was the young, upcoming German. Isabelle Faust. She's an extremely efficient player, though suffering from a certain inflexibility of tone and occasional intonational lapses. On this showing, Faust lacks the ability to phrase characterfully, or to engage the listener from moment to moment, or with much feeling for overall structure.

In the Ives, the BSO's sometimes rough-and-ready sound, from the strings in particular, gave a not inappropriately elemental edge to the proceedings. Bernas shaped this five-movement, quite complex symphony with real finesse, too, building powerfully towards the zany climaxes of the second movement which had an explosive impact.

While such imaginative programming is to be commended, music by living composers plays a sadly small part in this year's main season. All the more welcome, then, is Kokoro, a 20th-century ensemble which is the initiative of the percussionist Kevin Field and some of his fellow performers. The group's late-night concert on Wednesday included alert. performances of Stravinsky's Septet and Ravel's "Introduction and Allegro" and, sensibly imitating Birmingham's scheme of commissions paid for by members of the audience, the première of Colin Riley's evocative "Taking Leaves". Despite the BSO's

stabilisation grant from the Arts Council, the abandonment of the ambitious plans for a regular new venue in Bristol has led to the departure of Anthony Woodcock, the orchestra's managing director, for the US. Yakov Kreizberg, the principal conductor who is currently "on sabbatical", is also missed. Right now, it has to be admitted that the BSO doesn't sound like the orchestra with international potential that he has steered for the past three years.

KEITH POTTER

Into the swing with five-star Cinders

"COME ON then - get it all out of your system," jeers Brian Prothero's wicked stepmother at the hissing audience. Here, they don't need much encouragement in that department - which is why it is such a great place to see a pantomime.

They were selling toy swords and magic wands in the front of house. and even before the proceedings proper had started, one little boy was en devotedly bashing his weapon over the head of the drummer in the pit. The heckles have a good-hu-

THEATRE CINDERELLA

THEATRE ROYAL STRATFORD EAST LONDON

abandon. While Cinders's nasty stepsisters, Cloaca and Lymphida, were getting dressed up for the ball, a girl sitting behind me yelled: "You are ugly! You are ugly!! You are ugly!!!... actually, I like that frock."

So if the audience gets a five-star

David Cregan, with lots of catchy, kid- Mrs Joy Da Palma. A monster with ding songs by the versatile Mr leopard-skin trimmings, she makes Prothero, Stratford's Cinderello is a much use of a travelling punishmentjoy. In this version, it's really Dean Maynard's tall chump of a Prince BGP (ie "boy and girl power") be able who creates the initial miserable existence for Fiona Wade's ravishing heroine. Forever galloping around on his hobby-horse in search of the "less fortunate" ("Hello, are you one of the less fortunate?"), he inflicts his fatuous philanthropy on Cinderella's family by arranging a marriage of fi-

entertainment? Wittily scripted by dim, hard-up father and Prothero's even begun to dream about Yo-Yos, Michaels) who has been told by cupboard with a silence lever. Will to sing fit to blast Cinders out of this prison so that she can try on the glass slipper? The only surprise, given the intensity of the response, is that the cast don't end up having to extricate as miserable as sin/ 'Cos you've lost the ball. And you will have a ball. You shattered slipper from their wigs.

The show has across-the-board charm. Parents like myself who, unmoured, almost free-associative rating, what about the rest of the nancial convenience between her hinged by the current craze, have radiant Fairy Godmother (Debra To 23 Jan (0181-534 0310)

should be warned that you can't get away from them here. Is there a Buttons throughout the land this year who is not wielding one of these haris a Buttons in the land half as winning and unsoppy as Paul Keating. who delivers the deftly daft songs ("If the sky is falling in/ And you are your kith and kin/ Skip a bit and

smile"; with a lovely impudence. There's audience participation, a

Head Office to restrict her magical assistance to those who are "damn near dead", and a very funny Royal Family who launch into a riotous rowing toys? But then I doubt there rock'n roll extravaganza when they decide to throw a party - the an-cestral portraits on the wall behind them getting into the swing of things too. Cinders does, of course, get to will! Oh yes, you will!

PAUL TAYLOR

Blazing into colour

IT'S AN indication of the difference in popularity, still, between Bruckner and Mahler that far fewer people turned up for this performance of Bruckner's seventh symphony than nattended the New Queen's Hall Orchestra's recent Mahler sixth. Which is a pity, as the Bruckner provided a very different, but equally fascinating chance to experience the virtues of "period" performance of late Romantic orchestral music. Mahier's dramatically coloured scores present wooden flutes, narrow-bore brass, hide-headed drums etc. in a highly exposed way, whereas with Bruckner the effect was more subtle - like an old, fine-detailed, sepia-tone photograph brought to life. The rich, warm sound of gut strings was evident from the measured opening theme, while the first climax made it clear this was to be an interpretation where intensity rather than sheer brute force held sway. Great assounding chords recalled Sruckner's beloved cathedral

CLASSICAL

HALL ORCHESTRA BARBICAN CENTRE LONDON

rounding textures to very striking effect. Here, as elsewhere in the

symphony, attacks were not always perfect, and conductor Wyn Morris's elasticity of tempo was slightly disconcerting, if exciting, in the final peroration. But the performance grew in stature as it unfolded - for the glorious adagio in memory of Wagner the bass tuba player crossed the stage some fiendishly difficult music to join a quartet of Wagnertubas (made for Sir Henry Wood in 1892 and played here start and some technical adfor the first time since the justments he responded well Twenties) to magnificent effect. The focused tuba sound, together with the long, sweeping melodies, brought this movement to life, and the final climax and coda of infinite regret was mesmerising.

Morris chose a rather deliberate tempo for the scher-20, but what was especially organ, and sharp, clear woodpleasing was the warmth of wind bit through the sur-

the nostalgic trio section. The finale - a difficult, episodic movement - got off to a scintillating start, with lucid woodwind standing out again. The added depth and deep resonance of the Wagner-tubas joined with the other brass to enhance the effect of contrasting "choirs", and echoes of the great Johann Sebastian were in the air, as the sepia photograph blazed into colour in the resplendent and noble

conclusion of this utterly mon-

umental work.

In Strauss's First Horn Concerto, the soloist Roger Montgomery bravely took on with a 110-year-old, genuinely French, horn. After a false to the tuneful material, with a pleasingly lyrical quality in the quieter passages. In comparison to the modern horn the more virtuosic passages seemed to lack power and brilliance, but the experience was thoroughly stimulating and received with warm ap-

LAURENCE HUGHES

Stand by your scarecrow

FIRST PUBLISHED in 1900, L Frank Baum's wonderland tale fixed the image of a yellowbrick road, snaking its way through unspoilt expanses towards the wish-fulfilling towers of the Emerald city. It could be seen as one of the greatest advertisements for highway construction of all time, or a pedestrian zone like no other. However, John Doyle's joyful stage version of the movie appears reluctant to rub salt into local wounds opened by the notorious building of the local bypass. His yellow-brick road is closer to a strip of imitation yellow-brick matting.

Meg Surrey's understated design (a wall-to-wall skyscape, untroubled by the merest hint of tornado-spun Kansas farmstead) can be partly attributed to the Watermill's acting area, which isn't big enough to swing a munchkin in. Doyle's aesthetic carefully sidesteps the movie's more troublesome visual elements. This Dorothy's Oz is remarkably similar to the rural back-of-beyond she has just and wind section, there's an acleft. The Wicked Witch of the cordion for the Tin Man (clunk-

THEATRE THE WIZARD OF OZ WATERMILL THEATRE NEWBURY

harridan but a buxom cowgirl. clad in black from stetson to knee-high boot, with a pair of revolvers slung suggestively around the navel. The Sorceress of the South (very Tammy Wynette) in a whitejean number and a Statue-of-Liberty-style headpiece comes armed with a hicksville drawl and a wholesome smile. The Scarecrow, Tin Man and Lion resemble overalled farmhands in half fancy-dress, while the citizens of munchkin-land are. as any child could see, a group of kids in multi-coloured

What gives this "Wiz" whiz is the way that the cast all play instruments as they are spun back and forth by a mini-revolve. Every cloud has a silver handle, enabling swift access to cupboards crammed with instruments; as well as a horn West is no broomstick-thin ingly good Simon Walter), a To 16 Jan (01635 46044)

knickerbockers and wigs.

banjo for the scarecrow (Jeremy Harrison on floppy form) and a recorder for Katherine Oliver's Dorothy (more tomboy than Judy Garland). They lend a warm, Country-and-Western tone to Harold Arlen's and Yip Harburg's timeless songs, turning the forest capers into a vigorous hoe-down and ending with a beautiful a capella re-run of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow".

It's a gentle show, for the (very) young at heart: the schoolchildren at the matinee I saw were too busy pretending to choke on the dry ice to be much bothered by the lightbulb contraption intended to signify "the great Oz". The wicked witch's come-uppance, and Dorothy's return home. happen faster than you can say "my pretty". But if the journey is more memorable than the arrival, that has always been the point. It isn't as awesome as the film, but this Wizard of Oz still has plenty of brains, heart and courage. It deserves to blow its own trumpet.

DOMINIC CAVENDISH



Jeremy Harrison and Katherine Oliver Laurence Burns

'I'm no artist but...

In the third part of our week-long series on the culture of criticism, we look at what it means to be an art critic. Who qualifies to eke words out of images? How are exhibitions chosen? And do art critics have any real influence anyway? By Tom Lubbock

then?And you can guess how pleased I am at talk for the equivalent of Actually, when the question comes, I quite often don't say "art critic". I say "commercial illustrator". That was once my living. It sounds a decent, banausic sort of trade. It causes no trouble. Whereas "art critic" – well, it's one of the very worst classes of person.

What is wrong with art critics? They are as bad as other critics; vindictive, frustrated parasites, and then some. However, there are two main, extra negatives. First of all, the gap between art criticism and what it purports to criticise, seems especially wide: the visual and the verbal, and all that. So the art critic who spins words off images by the about what they'd rather not is

yard falls under the grave suspicion of simply faking it. (You may say that music criticism is trickier still, but the music critic somehow isn't such a folkloric figure.)

Second factor: Modernism in the visual arts has been more prominently bizarre than elsewhere. So it's always an art critic who - in the fable -

rhapsodises the exquisite modernity of something that turns out later to be the work of a monkey. Indeed, for people who think modern art is a con, it is not the artists (honest nutters) but the critics (pretentious impostors) who are usually the real

But if I've come clean, and if the conversation doesn't stick on those points, then there are a few questions that frequently get asked, and I thought I should note them down.

Most asked question: do you get to choose the shows you write about? Curious one: an oddly practical inquiry. Like saying: do you art critics always get free catalogues? And we do, incidentally, always - or we make the most dreadful fuss. In fact, accumulating large glossy artbooks for free is one of the real perks of the profession, I mean, what do the theatre critics get to show for it? Free programmes!

icy, agreed between the media and quite a doss, but if you also chose the shows yourself, it would hardly be a job at all? As to an agenda, there is one. The process happens like this.

what do you do, arts critic: you are going to review X. aren't you? Critic: Oh God, do I have to, nothing to say about it at all. having this chance to Arts ed: No, I think it's quite major - readers will be aware of it, and about 10 minutes, unin- want to hear a view. And what terrupted, on the subject of my job. makes some show "major" is the usual rolling, self-reinforcing process of established fame, fresh publicity and coverage.

Of course, the whole process gets internalised, all down the line. These conversations don't usually happen. I don't need to be told which shows are major. I know it very well. And the straight answer to the question is that these major shows are pretty compulsory. Others are optional. Some weeks nothing presses and you're free to write about any show you want. Not that I wouldn't want to write about most of the compulsory ones anyway, and not that making people write

such a bad thing. For example, I didn't choose this present and assignment, thought it a little bit silly, but I seem to have got some true things said.

As to the charge of idleness, I can only say that for the per-THE CRITICAL fect fusion of work and leisure, the TV critics must surely take the prize. And we

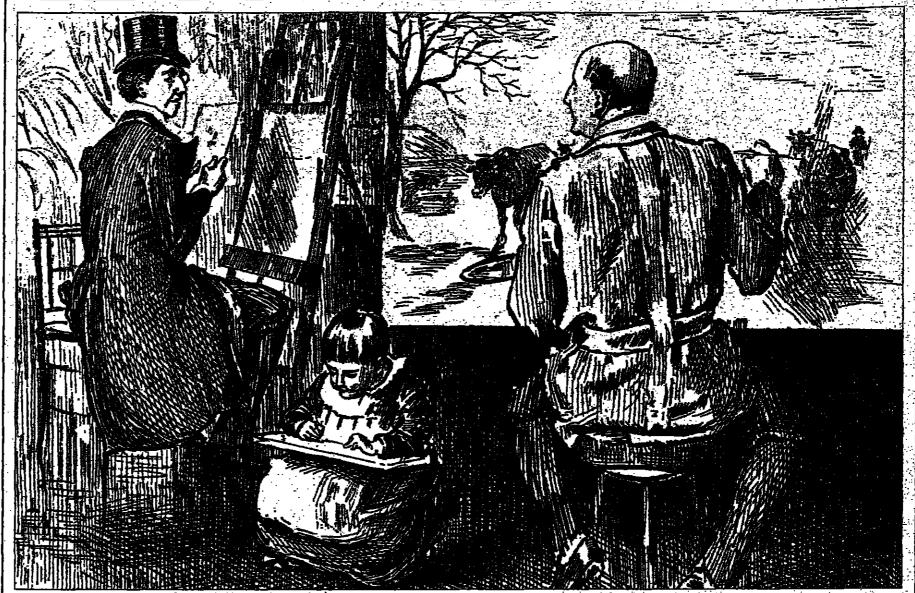
art critics do at least see the work under real conditions. We often go in normal public opening hours, unlike film critics who are stuck in small, underground screening cinemas, exclusively in their own company. But I suppose that only makes the art critic's job sound nicer. Yes, it's a good job, no doubt about it.

CONDITION

So another question: what qualification do you have to be an art critic? And again: how do you define what makes one work better than another? These are the sort of questions that are called good questions - i.e. straight answers are impossible, and the right answers sound boring. After all, what qualification could there conceivably be? You can only describe how you came to have the job and how you made some particular judgement, and it can get quite dull.

Besides, these are really general critic queries. And the rest - who's But what this choosing question your top artist ever? What about means, I'm never quite sure. Is it a Hirsty, or Ofili, or Saatchi? - are general party talk. If you critic interlocutor, I'd suggest the art world, about what shows are another area of questioning. Think going to to be covered? Or is it a way about how art critics both lack an done between a small number of of saying: I can see your job must be important power and acquire a strange authority.

All critics, like all advertisers, tend to boast about how little effect they The paper's arts editor will say to the proper research. But art critics Those who have influence don't



Our artist: 'Oh it's by Flumpkin -the Impressionist all you chaps are so enthusiastic about. Clever isn't it!' Flipbutt 'Clever! Why it's divine! Such freshness, such naïveté! Such a splendid scorn of conventional technique! Such a... Our artist. 'A thousand pardons! That's the wrong thing you've got hold of. That's just a scribble by this little scamp of a grandson of mine. Not very Punch', 7 July 1894 promising, I fear; but he's only four!"

clear limit on their influence: burns on seats is not a factor.

No art show closes for bad houses. Runs are fixed, though very occasionally extended. No artistic reputation is made through popular acclaim. The important business of iporary art iso i done at pud "agenda" - some general tacit pol- wanted to get the best out of your art lic exhibitions. It's done in private it like this: Sensation was a gamble galleries which the public are hardly encouraged to visit; at any rate, it's dealers, curators and rich people. So however persuasively art critics may speak, they're in a sort of limbo. Most of those they speak to have, and really this is a question for are themselves without influence.

must be conscious that, with con- need the papers for advice. Though can carry on in avant-garde mode, temporary art at least, there's one possibly the rudest, art critics can never be very ruinous.

Flipbutt (the famous young art critic): 'What's this pencil sketch I've found on the easel!'

True, a good notice and a good crowd are always welcome, and may make a little difference. But if Sensation last year had been a big flop, rather than a big hit. I wonder how much it would have affected the Careers of the artists shown. Ur du - a gamble on new art having a wide appeal. And it paid off. But there was no obligation to make the gamble in the first place.

We're talking economics. We're talking about an audience of nonpatrons; a public who don't pay the piper or call the tune. This is partly that receives the living guide-book why mainstream contemporary art

IN SUMMER last year, this

ladybird was scurrying over

Dorset. Now it is a work of

art - a triumph of nature

and electron microscopy.

photographer and former

geologist, captured it in a

freeze, dehydrated it in

alcohol - then spent a

joining the scans by

on to art paper of a

jamjar, killed it in his deep

month scanning it bit by bit,

computer. The result is a

giant, 30in by 40in black-

and-white pigment transfer

minutely detailed ladybird.

Ink with a non-fade life of

75 years has recently been

blown up to 12ft by 9ft, using

electron microscope instead

electrons instead of photons

because its magnifying

power is greater, and it

It can magnify up to

lot of form," says Revell.

He has also produced

grasshopper, and an X-ray

prints of magnifications of a

'Real surface relief."

of a skate fish. "I was

interested in recording

everyday insects that we

says, "in order to reveal

never think twice about," he

how complex they are. The

ladybird's feet are like little

woodlouse and a

50,000 times. The ladybird is

magnified a mere 50 times

before processing. "It has a

produces a three-

dimensional effect.

developed - which means

that Revell can produce saleable images of insects

an Iris ink-jet printer.

of a light microscope -

He uses a scanning

tussocks of grass on the

cliffs of Ballard Down,

Giles Revell, a

whereas mainstream theatre or cinema employ nearly traditional forms. But it also puts art's audience at a distance from the art. They know that the power of choice is elsewhere, and that they are, so to speak, only in attendance, only pay-

ing court. And this rarelying distance

makes for mystery, and so 21

critics their odd authority. Expert is the annoying, indicating word. Nobody gets called a book expert, and only a few get called cinema or music experts - and they're not the critics. But art critics easily get called art experts, as if privy to arcana. Or think about arts TV: nine-times-out-of-ten it is visual art

treatment; the personal introduction to the mysterious but glorious world of art. It's not just that art looks nice on telly. There's a felt need for these helpful ciceroni - Wendy Beckett, Waldemar Januszczak - to appreciate art on our behalf. Nobody feels the same need to be told how to watch films or listen to music.

Personally, this "let me take you streets of culture" approach makes me puke. I want everyone to be grown ups. I don't think art is inherently an arch mystery. I don't especially blame the poverty of visual education, either; I never had any myself. I blame the psychology of economics. It applies to new and old.

Visual art is this sacred mystery because it's out of our hands. It's never made the transition from a feudal to a market economy. It's still 🛴 run by princes - rich individuals and public functionaries. It stands a thing apart; a treasure. No outrageous profanity by contemporary artists can dent its aura, and the socalled "age of mechanical repro by the hand and lead you through the duction" has made not the slightest difference. Nor can art critics, even when they try, easily slough off the role of mystagogue.

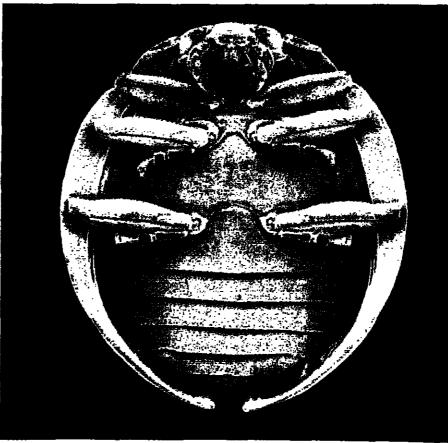
Sorry to moan. That's what I do, anyway. But as with most doings, it isn't wholly I that does it.

Tomorrow: Paul Taylor on theatre

LLOYD WEBBER'S BEST SHOW SINCE PHANTOM Andrew Lloyd Webber's terrific new musical with lyrics by rock legend Jim Steinman CALL THE BOX OFFICE FOR DETAILS OF SPECIAL CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES 0171 416 6000 0171 957 4001 No booking fee for personal callers at the box other ALDWYCH THEATRE ADMINISTRATION WITH

THE INDEPENDENT COLLECTOR

JOHN WINDSOR'S GUIDE TO COLLECTING CONTEMPORARY ART: GILES REVELL



Giles Revell's ladybird: 'It has a lot of form.'

brushes and its underside is completely covered in tiny hairs that lie evenly, as if they have been combed." Revell, 33, was introduced to light microscopy of minerals while training as a geologist. He worked for two years with the British Geological Survey before

embarking on a career as a

photographer in advertising.

Michael Hoppen Photography "I also read a lot of books

on natural history. They got me thinking." The Natural History Museum's microscopy department told him how to use chemical fixatives to preserve dead insects, and put him in touch with the Royal Holloway University which allowed him to use its £60,000 scanning electron

The insects need to be dehydrated - otherwise the vacuum in which electrons are fired at them would cause them to explode. The vacuum also ensures that air molecules do not impede the trajectory of the electrons. The image is in fact created by electrons emitted from the surface of the insect as the electron

The dead insect is coated in gold for maximum conductivity - like a tiny, gilded pharaoh in a vacuumpacked sarcophagus.

It can take up to two days to lay out an insect. Revell's aesthetic sense dictates that it should lie with legs and antennae symmetrically placed, not sticking out at all angles. "The trouble," says Revell, "is that they don't die tidily. I want to see them as symmetrical forms. The positions I put them in are not completely forced. They do pull up their legs symmetrically in real life when resting on a leaf, for example.

"But they are very brittle after debydration. You can spend a day arranging an insect with pins and prods and then a leg falls off." It takes even longer -

about a month, working six to eight hours a day - to join 75 6in-by-7in electronic scans seamlessly by computer, to produce the complete picture. The computer file is then

printed on to art paper. If Revell ever succeeds in producing an electronic blow-up of a moth, his art will have reached its apotheosis. As soon as you touch a dead moth, its hair and the scales of its wings begin to fall off. "There must be a way." he says.

Prices: £3.000 plus VAT in editions of seven from the Michael Hoppen Gallery, 3 Jubilee Place, London SW3 (0171-352 3649). The gallery urill be exhibiting Revell's work in May and June 1999

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HEALTH

Can eating peanuts during pregnancy lead to a fatal allergic reaction in your child? The Chief Medical Officer seems to think so, but the evidence is inconclusive. By Caroline Richmond

A hard nut to crack

enjamin Dunlop was 13 months old when his mother, Sharon, gave him a taste of peanut butter. "I put a tiny bit on the end of a spoon and within a minute he had a bright red, swollen face. He came up in lumps – hives – and he vomited. He then went floppy and lethargic."

Although Sharon Dunlop is the resuscitation training officer for Wexham Park Hospital in Slough, she panicked. "I got some Piriton - an antihistamine - and gave it to him. By then, his breathing was noisy and laboured." She ran outside as her husband, Duncan, arrived home, and they drove Benjamin to their doctor's surgery. Here his condition gradually improved, and he was allowed home when his symptoms had subsided.

Children who get peanut allergy tend to come from families with a tendency to allergy - "atopic" families. Ben's mother, Sharon, gets allergic asthma from contact with animals, especially dogs, and her brother suffers from eczema. Sharon Dunlop confesses that she had "a bit of a fetish" for Snickers bars, which contain peanuts, when she was pregnant with Benjamin. So is that why Ben is allergic to peanuts?

Earlier this year, the Chief Medical Officer suggested that mothers with a tendency to allergy "may wish" to avoid eating peanuts during pregnancy. His advice was based on a port from an expert Government committee, and followed a rise in the incidence of peanut allergy, which usually appears in babies and toddlers

In a case of identical twins (with the same genetic make-up) one

was sensitive to neanuts while the other had no reaction

and now affects one in 200 four-yearolds. Other allergies are increasing. but peanut allergy is serious because it can cause fatal anaphylactic shock.

But clear evidence for the Government's advice is lacking, and the emphasis on what mothers "may wish" to do in pregnancy underlines act. Deborah Fox and Gideon Lack, doctors at the Paediatric Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Clinic at St Mary's Hospital in London, believe avoiding peanuts may even increase

the prevalence of peanut allergy. In a letter to The Lancet, they said that the Government guidelines that suggest atopic pregnant and breast-feeding mothers should avoid peanuts are not based on evidence, and have caused distress to mothers with peanut-allergic children.

They described seeing mothers of peanut-allergic patients who fear that Fox told The Independent of one their child's allergy was caused by the mother of two peanut-allergic children . This they ate in pregnancy, and other isothers who had deliberately avoided eating them - but still had peanutallergic children. In the case of identical twins seen in their clinic, one twin has often been found to be sensitive to peanuts while the other has had no reaction at all.

Given that identical twins have the same genetic make-up and are exposed during pregnancy to the same substances from the mother's blood, this suggests that something more than eating nuts in pregnancy causes the allergic reaction.



Sharon Dunlop and her son, Benjamin - allergic to peanuts but not other nuts

They do, however, accept that pregnant," he says. "There may be a "Whether avoiding the allergen makes excessive peanut consumption could small chance of sensitisation if the be associated with peanut allergy. Dr

who ate peanuts, peanut butter or Snickers bars 25 to 30 times a week. "But there is also evidence that complete abstinence is associated with allergy," she added. "When mothers ask us what they should do in their next pregnancy and breast-feeding, we advise them to eat small quantities."

Dr Richard Pumphrey, consultant immunologist at St Mary's Hospital, Manchester, is also sceptical about the Government's advice. "We see more and more young patients with nut allergy, and mothers often ask if it could be because they are nuts when

mother eats nuts during pregnancy. but there is no firm evidence that sens-

itisation occurs in the womb."

John Warner, professor of child health at Southampton University, and a member of the Government's working group on peanut allergy, said: "On the balance of evidence, and given that peanuts are not an essential part of anyone's diet, it seems reasonable to recommend that during pregnancy and breast-feeding, women with a family history of allergies do not

have these products." However, when Professor Warner was interviewed for an article that appeared in the British Medical Journal, he was quoted as saying:

a difference is an act of faith." Pamela Ewan, the consultant at the

allergy and clinical immunology department at Cambridge's Addenbrooke's Hospital, says that there is "no evidence of sensitisation to peanut allergen in utero", and believes that more research needs to be done so that "public health measures can be soundly based".

Despite the lack of evidence, Dr Jonathan Hourihane, from the Institute of Child Health and Great Ormond Street Hospital, says that when mothers ask, he advises them to avoid peanuts because "no one comes to any harm from not eating them".

He agrees with the Government's advice, but says: "I don't believe in the

nanny state, and anyway, a lot of mothers have already decided what they are going to do in their next

And when it comes to the question of giving young children peanuts or peanut butter, Dr Hourihane adds: "In south-east Asia and some parts of Africa, it's a weaning food.

Dr Fox makes a similar point in her letter to The Lancet: "In south-east Asian societies, in which groundnut is part of the staple diet, there is a low prevalence of peanut allergy."

Peanut allergy ranges from a mild reaction, with a fairly runny nose or slight skin blotches, to the life-threatening, with swelling of the throat and allergic shock (anaphylaxis). Symptoms are most severe in teenagers and young adults, and there are at least five deaths a year. These can be prevented if the allergy is recognised by an allergy specialist, and people at risk carry an automatic adrenaline syringe called an Epipen.

However, people with allergies have very little chance of getting good specialist advice: there are only 68 hospitals in Britain with an allergy clinic, and only 13 of those are run by a consultant allergist who is trained in dealing with all types of allergy. Only four of the 13 are outside London - in Cambridge. Leicester, Liverpool and Southampton.

Even in Cambridge, a centre of excellence, Dr Ewan says that another consultant is needed. The clinics are regularly overbooked, they see 2,200 outpatients a year, and the waiting-list is 15 months long, though cases that are urgent are seen more quickly.

In south-east Asia and parts of Africa, peanuts are used as weaning food and the prevalence of peanut allergy is low

In 1993, Sarah Reading died, aged 17, in a restaurant in Guildford after eating a dessert that contained traces of peanut. She didn't carry an Epipen, which might have saved her life, because neither she nor her family knew they existed. Her father, David. responded by starting the Anaphylaxis Campaign, which has 5,000 members. It has joined hands with the British Allergy Foundation and the Royal College of Physicians to press the Department of Health to recognise allergy as a speciality, to train more doctors in it, and also to increase the number of clinics.

After his acute episode, Benjamin, who is now two and a half, was referred to Dr Jan Reiser at Lister Hospital, Stevenage, a paediatrician with an interest in allergy. Because his allergic response was so severe, Dr Reiser tested him for other nut allergies. He doesn't have them, and he can eat other, tree-grown nuts.

The Dunlops keep an Epipen in the house in case Benjamin needs it, and there is also one at his nursery. If Mrs Dunlop has another child, will she eat peanuls during the pregnancy? "Definitely not, and my advice is don't try a child on any form of nuts until they are at least three."

Anaphylaxis Campaign, 2 Clockhouse Road, Farnborough GU14 7QY. tel 01252 542 029. For a free information pack, send on A4, self-addressed

Dentists who drill for gold

A DISTURBING photograph appeared in the medical press last month. It showed a queue of people snaking down a pavement in a provincial town. There was a man in a suit, a mother with two children, a lad in a denim jacket – ordinary people from different backgrounds queuing

for... the dentist. A day and a half after a new NHS dentists' surgery opened in Truro, Cornwall, more than 1,000 patients had flocked to register. New patients queued for hours and some travelled from 100 miles away to avail themselves of what is supposed to be a readily available national service.

The destruction of NHS dentistry is a scandal that has gone almost unreported. Ministers claim that there are more NHS dentists than ever, but increasing numbers treat only children and the poor on the NHS. For an adult, paying patient, finding an NHS dentist is difficult everywhere and next to impossible in the south of the country.

For those who fail in the search - or balk at travelling 100 miles to have a tooth filled - a private dentist is the only option. But for many the cost of treatment is unaffordable.

The dentist peers into your mouth, announces what must be done, and starts to drill. As the precious enamel disappears in a whirr of grit and water, the dental practice's bank balance notches up at least £3

A new book describes a patient who received an estimate of £58,000 from a private dentist for a "full mouth rehabilitation". That puts Martin Amis's reputed £20,000 bill in perspective. Fees of £100 for a filling that would cost £10 on the NHS are common. In a market with prices

such as these, tooth preservation becomes a critical priority. I am one person who has given up the major part of his dentition to over-eager dentists down the years. Conscientiously visiting the dentist every six months - my first serious error – I was always told so much work was needed that it would trigger the maximum NHS payment. Today, my mouth contains HEALTH CHECK



JEREMY LAURANCE

enough amalgam to

trigger a bomb scare. It was, therefore, with a strong feeling of relief that, more than a decade ago, I came upon an NHS dentist with a different,

low-key style. Anne Sherman has practised from the same surgery in Hackney for more than 25 years. Warm, but tough, she understands what too few dentists seem to: that teeth are for preserving, and drilling should be a

Now she has written a book - a guide to dentistry based on two decades of answering patients' questions – co-authored with her late husband. Barrie Sherman, the writer and broadcaster who died last year.

Like the woman, the book delivers direct, straightforward advice in a plain, unadorned style and includes the anecdote about the £58,000 "rehabilitation" estimate.

A couple of years ago, after another of my overtwed teeth gave way. I consulted a private dentist in west London about an implant - a false tooth fixed permanently in the jaw – which is not available on the NHS. He spent an hour describing the gadgets in his surgery in a voice as soothing as a physical caress.

When he finally disclosed what the implant would cost -£2,000 for half a molar, plus £1,800 for unspecified restorative work on my mouth - it required a physical effort for me to lever myself up from his chair and say "No". Now I know how cheap his offer was.

'Complete Family Guide to Dental Health by Anne and Barrie Sherman

There is a subtle killer in the air

I AM worried that I may be suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning at work. What are the

symptoms? Carbon monoxide is an odourless, colourless gas that can be detected only with special monitoring equipment. Exposure to high concentrations of the gas leads to collapse. unconsciousness and death. But the symptoms of exposure to low concentrations are much more vague and can be identical to the symptoms of food poisoning or flu (without wever). The commonest symptom is a headache, which affects 90 per cent of people who are exposed to

the gas. Nausea and

vomiting affect about half of people who are exposed, and a feeling of dizziness or that the room is spinning around (vertigo) affects some people. Whole families who seem to be suffering from food poisoning may in fact be affected by carbon monoxide

poisoning. If more than one person in the house is affected, or if the symptoms always occur in one place (either work or home), the cause could be carbon monoxide poisoning. Corgiregistered gas engineers and local environmental health officers can measure carbon monoxide levels, and the Health and Safety Executive has a helpline on 0800 300363.

Carbon monoxide detectors

and alarms are useful to

A QUESTION OF HEALTH



DR FRED KAVALIER

prevent acute poisoning, but they do not detect low levels

MY MOTHER seems to be allergic to something that causes her scalp to become red and irritated. The only shampoo she can tolerate is now being withdrawn by the manufacturers. Is there any way to find out exactly what chemicals she is

allergic to? Your mother may be able to discover the precise cause of her allergy by having her skin tested with a range of common chemical additives. This can be done by a dermatologist and she should ask to be referred to a hospital dermatology clinic for skin testing. If a cause is found, you will have to contact shampoo manufacturers to discover

what chemicals are in their

products. In the meantime, I

suggest she tries Infaderm

shampoo, which is manufactured by Goldshield Pharmaceuticals.

MY DOCTOR frequently consults a thick paperback book which appears to contain a wealth of information about drugs and their side-effects. Is this available to the public? This book, the British National Formulary (BNF), is full of information about drugs, including their sideeffects, interactions with other drugs, and doses. It indicates which drugs are available without a prescription. It also provides sensible guidance on how to treat many illnesses. Unlike most of the drugs that it describes, it is available

without a doctor's prescription. It might make an unusual Christmas present for both hypochondriacs and people who are interested in drugs and illnesses. It is updated twice a year, and the current edition is BNF 36. You can order a copy from the BMJ Bookshop, Burton Street, London WC1H 9JR, 0171-387 4499, for £14.95 including

Please send questions to A Question of Health, 'The Independent', 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL: fax 0171-293 2182: or e-mail to health@independent.co.uk. Dr Kavalier cannot respond personally to questions

postage.

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If you need a transfusion during an operation, recycling your own blood will help you to recover faster. By Paul Dinsdale

Just what the patient ordered

ation to replace it would involve the loss of a lot of blood, so she thought she would rather have her own than a donation from a stranger. "I wanted to give some of my own blood well in advance and have it back when I needed it," she said.

Ms Rayner was disappointed, however, because the hospital did not operate an autologous blood transfusion scheme. This process where the patient's own blood is used, is already relieving pressure on donated blood stocks and improving recovery times for patients. However, 20 hospitals around the country are now using an even smarter method, called intra-operative salvage.

"What happens in most hospitals is that, when a patient loses blood during an operation, it is collected and poured away, which is an astonishing waste of a precious resource," says Dr Mike Thomas, a consultant in transfusion medicine and the chairman of the special interest group of the British Blood Transfusion Society.

During the intra-operative salvage process, blood is taken away by suction, as in normal operations, and is then fed through a tube to a machine which begins a washing procedure to make it ready for transfusion. The main advantage in patients being given their own blood is that it helps to avoid the efficiency of their immune system being reduced as a result of using somebody else's blood.

"The body does not recognise the donated blood cells as its own and does not accept them at first, and this allows bacteria to creep in by default," explains Dr Thomas. "Patients who have autologous transfusions are therefore less likely to develop post-operative infections and, on average, they leave hospital two to five days earlier than those who receive donated (or homologous) blood."

At Southmead Hospital in Bristol, a study of orthopaedic patients who had received autologous transfusions showed this to be the case. and the hospital's use of costly blood stocks and antibiotics has also been reduced.

Dr Cari Waldmann, the director of intensive care at the Royal Berkshire Hospital Trust, in Reading, says: "The introduction of intraoperative cell salvage has proved very beneficial as we now use less donated blood, which is very expensive – we estimate that donated blood costs around £50 per unit [about a pint]. "Patients are comfortable in the knowledge that they will, in most cases, be given their own blood," he explains. "There is a genuine underlying concern among patients about the potential risk of exposure to HIV."

One patient who has felt the benefit of recycling his own blood is Stanley Yentis, aged 72, who lives in Heron Island, Berkshire. He was diagnosed as baving an aortic



Stocks of donated blood could fall to their lowest levels of the year this Christmas. Claire Rayner (below) feels 'so grateful' to the person who donated blood for her operation

ening condition, and went into hospital for a three-hour operation. During the operation he was given an autologous transfusion of around 12 units of his own blood.

"The doctor told me I would be given my own blood, but it didn't really mean much to me," says Mr Yentis. "I certainly had no problems with the system, and I felt fine four days later."

Mr Yentis developed no postoperative infection, the risk of which is higher in older patients, and was allowed home four days after surgery, whereas most patients recovering from similar operations have to stay in hospital for around 10 days. But Mr Yentis, a retired civil engineer, was riding his bicycle again within four weeks.

Dr Waldmann says that the most beneficial use of the process is in orthopaedics and vascular surgery. It is also used in emergency opera-

Legal Notices

aneurism, a potentially life-threat- tions, although not all are suitable. "The machine costs from £10,000 to £20,000, but once the hospital starts using it there are long-term cost savings in donated blood. But of the year. The service has urged

one problem, from the bureaucratic

point of view, can be getting approval

from managers to transfer money

that would have spent on donated

blood to buying a machine."

The National Blood Transfusion Service has warned that, in the runup to Christmas, stocks of donated blood could fall to their lowest levels

rises due to an increase in road accidents and other injuries. The Royal College of Physicians

(RCP) has recently endorsed the mounting evidence of the benefits of

'People have developed a bit of a thing about donated blood, which is unfortunate because it has saved thousands of lives. Collecting blood during surgery and putting it back sounds a brilliant idea. It would be enormously reassuring'

donors to make a donation before the Christmas break. As people gear up for the festivities, attendances at blood transfusion centres fall sharply -although demand for donated blood

autologous transfusion, and the message is filtering through to more doctors as shortages of donated blood become more common. In its evaluation of intra-operative

salvage, the RCP said that "provided a rigid standard operating procedure is in place and the equipment is staff training, the side-effects are fewer than those associated with allogeneic [donated] transfusion".

transfusions of their own blood was to find one of the few hospitals that has a pre-deposit scheme, in which patients give their own blood before a planned operation. Most hospitals found that this was too complex administratively and too expensive to run in terms of blood storage and nurse time. Nevertheless, the RCP predicts that pre-deposit schemes

will become more widespread. Which will be good news for Claire Rayner if she ever needs another operation. Ms Rayner, who is the chairwoman of the Patients' Association, says that she did not argue when she was told she

"I was prepared to believe the reasons were good ones," she say easily available with appropriate She had her operation but after wards became anaemic and required a further blood transfusion. "I felt so ill, and it made a huge dif-Until recently, the only option for ference. I was so grateful to the pernatients who wanted to be given son who made the donation. I thought about how they had done that for me, and it just hit me."

could not pre-store her own blood.

Ms Rayner welcomed the circular issued by the health department in consultation with the Patients' Association urging hosp-

itals to do more to conserve bland.
"People have developed a bland a thing about donated blood, which is unfortunate because it has saved thousands of lives. Collecting blood during surgery and putting it back sounds brilliant. It would be enormously reassuring."

Call the National Blood Transfusion Service on 0345 711711

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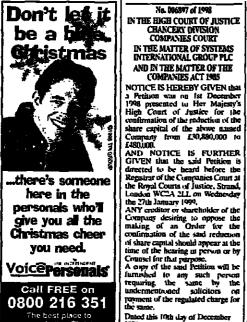
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Sex, lies and evolutionists BOFFINS HAVE discovered a

Peruvian tribe whose men fancy apple-shaped (waists wider than hips) women, in contrast to the Marilyn Monroe and Kate Moss shapes that we favour. Shown pictures of the latter, the witty Peruvians suggested that they probably suffered from diarrhoea. This supposedly presents a challenge to the evolutionary psychologists' claim that our tastes reflect a universal, genetically programmed concept of

female beauty. In fact, for many of the issues that are taken as evolutionary gospel truth we do not need Peruvian exceptions to see that social rather than genetic explanations remain pivotal. There is a substantial body of work by the American psychologist Brett Silverstein which shows the centrality of social processes. Silverstein established that the modern "thin standard" for female attractiveness has **Huctuated**. Magazine photographs of women demonstrate that in the mid-Twenties and from the mid-Sixties to the present. standards have become very thin (as measured by low ratio bust and hip to waist measurements). Why should these

OLIVER JAMES

BRITAIN ON THE COUCH

fluctuations occur? Silverstein points to the fact that men have been more likely in most societies to be high achievers. At the same time, curvaceous women are perceived to be less intelligent than noncurvaceous ones, so women who want to be successful may minimise their femininity. Silverstein has established that thinness and achievement are connected in women. Responding to silhouettes of female figures, women who preferred smaller breasts and buttocks were also more likely to choose "masculine" careers. Added to this, investigation of historical archives of medical cases related to eating disorders has found references to strivings for intellectual or academic achievement. In former

times it was difficult for women to achieve recognition, and the desire to appear more masculine

may have been intensified.

Eating disorders are common among adolescent women who strive for high achievement. Girls from feepaying schools are more at risk than those at state schools, and upper-class girls are more likely to desire to be slimmer than lower-class ones. A further study of 188 women students showed that those who had "male" aspirations were more at risk of eating disorders, as were women who said they wished they had been born a boy. In short, women who want to have male achievements are more likely to aspire to a male body shape.

Silverstein also tested this theory by correlating the bust-to-waist ratios of models in magazine photographs since the beginning of this century. with the proportion of working women. When the number of women graduates and professionals was growing, there was a thinner body shape. Silverstein's work

suggests that the powerful stereotypes about women's bodies have a large effect Busty women are assumed to be incompelent, and it

should be no surprise if this makes women who want to be taken seriously in male domains want to look more

like men. This body of research and supporting evidence by other researchers has been ignored by the media. Almost none of the unintelligentsia who dominate our media will have heard of Silverstein. Most have an arts degree and know nothing about social science. They cheerfully swallow the latest wild speculation from the evolutionists. A predominantly Tory press peddles what are, in many cases, modern myths dressed up as science. The evolutionary myths nearly always uphold a right-wing status quo: that women are cut out only for mothering, men are naturally promiscuous, and so on. The ideological function of most evolutionary "science" is the same as that served by the Christian religion in the British Empire: proving that our way is natural and

Oliver James's Britain on the Couch: Why We're Unhappier Compared With 1950 Despite Being Richer'. is available in paperback (Arrow, £7.99)

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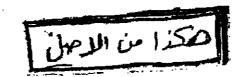
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MEDIA

The growing pains of Piers

Ever since he arrived at The Mirror, a lot of newspaper pundits have been waiting for Piers Morgan to fall flat on his face. But the latest sales figures show that he has turned around the fortunes of his red top. By Paul McCann

ould it be that Piers Morgan, the 33 yearold ex-public schoolboy responsible for the "Achtung! Surrender" headline who arranged for a reporter to buy drugs from the Home Secretary's son, is the man with his finger on the pulse of modern Britain?

The sales figures for his newspaper, The Mirror, seem to encourage the idea. Years of decline in the red-top market, accompanied by years of smug carping from the proadsheets, seem to have been urned on their head.

In the latest figures from the Audit Bureau of Circulation, The Mirror has proved that rumours of he death of the red-top are exaggerated. Its sales are up 66,000, or 3 per cent, compared with last November. Even better, and more reliable, is the fact that its last six months have been consistently up on the same six months in 1997.

After the doom-laden predictions i just a few months ago, when The Mirror was overtaken by the Daily Mail, The Mirror is back where you expect it to be - the second bestselling newspaper in Britain.

Morgan sits in his office, taking an obvious enjoyment from the good figures; he is even confident enough to admit to some mistakes: "When I first got here from the News of the World, my initial instinct was to try to go head to head with The Sun, hich was a mistake. It misjudged ne readership here, and that was a major moment for me personally."

What I've learnt over the last three years is that Mirror readers are very different animals from, perhaps, Sun readers and News of the World readers. I might have got away with the "Achtung! Surrender" stuff on The Sun, but you can't get away with it on The Mirror, and I've learnt some valuable lessons."

Ever since that German-baiting Euro '96 headline, Morgan has been targeted as the unacceptable face of ploid journalism. He is certainly

since his mentor, Kelvin MacKenzie. that - it gets attention for the paper. If the BBC and ITV want to come and interview me, it saves me thousands of pounds in advertising. If you are not the market leader, you have every trick in the book to get attention for your paper, and that has

very much been my strategy. last year, with Jack Straw's son, the Saudi nurse, Prince Harry, the interview with Trevor Rees-Jones, we have constantly been leading the agenda. And getting The Mirror front page on to television helps sell copies of the paper."

The other time Morgan and The



Piers Morgan: 'Occasionally I get called a complete tosser, but it doesn't bother me. If you are my age and do my job, you are going to get attention' Peter Macdiarmid

In September, the Mirror Group all sorts of people and lifestyles chief executive David Montgomery covered. We have Internet supplecomplete tosser, but it doesn't both- the Labour Party conference. In er me. If you are my age and you do front of Tony Blair, Montgomery my job, you are going to get atten- criticised Morgan for being negative tion. And I don't exactly run from about the Prime Minister's conference speech. "There was a misunderstanding," says Morgan. "But now all is happiness. And the good performance of the paper has helped - as it usually does between a chief executive and his editor."

Morgan believes that there are two separate strands to the turn-"If you look at the headlines of the around in The Mirror's sales. They might be termed the money factor and the Kelvin factor.

The first he attributes to the oftcriticised Mirror Group management. "They decided two years ago that they had to invest in the paper. A budget of £16m was found, to hire more journalists, to produce more Mirror got coverage this year was sections, more magazines. On Sat-

plements - every day of the week we

are giving people a reason to buy." Much of the money went on columnists. There are 22 new ones working for the paper who were not there two-and-a-half years ago, including Brian Reade and Tony Parsons. In total, there are 40 more journalists on the paper than when Morgan became editor and he wants to emphasise how hard his staff has worked to turn the paper around: kicking from The Sun for 30 years and I think over the last 18 months we've given them a kicking. There

is a feeling of real confidence here." The Kelvin factor relates to the difference made when the former Sun editor gave up on Live TV to become deputy chief executive of Mirror Group, with responsibility for all

not of the kind even he can welcome. urday we had a 136-page paper with the titles, and especially the most the paper that he wanted - I edited, important one.

Kelvin's arrival was the catalyst "Sure, occasionally I get called a issued a public rebuke to Morgan at ments, we have job and career sup- to take the paper on to the next sphere. He is in my view far and away the greatest tabloid editor that there has been, and totally in tune with how the readership has changed. Everyone thought he would take The Mirror downmarket, and of course we went the other way - although it's almost incongruous to say we've gone upmarket, because that indicates a class distinction. I don't make any class distinction; if people ask, 'where do "The Mirror has been getting a you want to get readers from', I'll say 'anywhere'. I'll have a Times reader. I'll have a Daily Star reader. We are seeing a change to the way people

> demanding now than they have ever been. "It would be wrong to say that as soon as Kelvin left, something went out of the paper. I had produced

aspire to things. The reader is more

he managed.

Morgan believes that the other factor in The Mirror's revival is that The Sun has lost its way: "It's not because they don't produce good papers - they do - and it's not because David Yelland is not a bright guy - he is. I think their problem is that they don't really know what they

stand for any more. "They've been backing losing tickets and doing U-turns all over the place. In the last year alone, there's been a big U-turn on Tony Blair, a U-turn on the Millennium Dome and another U-turn on gays.

"The Sun when it was at its most rampaging and successful never did U-turns on anything. It didn't have to - it understood exactly what it was about. Indeed, it never had to declare what it was about; it would just be obvious by the treatment in the paper. They've lost their confidence and we've regained ours."

On top of the change in his readers' class ambitions. Morgan believes social attitudes have moved back in The Mirror's direction.

"The two really big events of recent years, Tony Blair's election and Diana's death, have definitely created a culture in this country which is more compassionate and understanding than during the Thatcher years. The Sun prospered when there was a selfish, nasty edge to life. and I think because of our core values as a compassionate, Labour-supporting, campaigning paper, we have benefited from the change."

Piers Morgan has rarely seemed lacking in confidence, even when being hammered for his antics by his rivals' sales figures or by commentators. The man who fell into a vat of ebullience as a baby has had the cheek to survive in a job a lot of people claimed he could not do. Now that things are going well, he is likely to become irrepressible.









Four of Morgan's more infamous front pages. You can get away with 'Achtung! Surrender' on The Sun, but not on The Mirror. I've learned some valuable

THE PEOPLE'S editor, Neil Wallis, suffered a sense of humour failure last week after a news item entitled "Hunt on for the Chiswick flasher" appeared on The People's news list. The story appeared on the list after two reporters, one from The Sun and one from The Mirror, were going to their weekly tennis match in Chiswick. As they passed the home of Mr Wallis, he opened the curtains to his bedroom in his birthday suit, providing a full view of his editorial assets. He recognised the reporters, who recognised him, but is more unhappy with the news desk wit who put him on the editorial list.

MILLIONAIRES WERE made by the purchase of the ad agency Abbott Mead Vickers by the giant American agency Omnicom last week, but AMV had aiready made many people rich. One person it made £5m better off a few years ago was Matthew Freud, whose PR agency the ad agency bought. Shortly after the deal, presumably to show his gratitude, Freud arrived at a business meeting in a brandnew Aston Martin which carried the licence plate H1 AMV.

IT WAS all go at The Sun last week as staff prepared for the annual Christmas bash. It was a big news day, with General Pinochet dominating a list of good stories. More pressing for the picture desk, however, was



ON THE STREET the constant stream of requests from the deputy editor, Rebekah Wade, for a photograph of

children's television characters

Crystal Tips and Alastair. She

needed to know what they

looked like for her costume. But Ms Wade's bit of bother is nothing compared to that of her boss, David Yelland. He has had to change his home telephone number because of its similarity to that of a local pizza restaurant. At least he thinks those late-night calls from a swearing Australian are orders for pizza.

IT SEEMS that the producers of Mersey Blues, the upcoming flyon-the-wall documentary about Liverpool policemen, had a fame hungry detective on their side. The film crew spent four years following a team of coppers, which included one

who was sentenced earlier this year on corruption charges. When the crew started, five people at the top of Liverpool police knew there was an investigation going on into Davies. One of these was sent to see his team of detectives with the suggestion that perhaps they had enough on their plate investigating a murder without the bother of a film crew following them around. "Not at all", said one detective, who clearly cannot take a hint. "They're no trouble," and so the film crew stayed with Davies. All the way to court.

Elmore Davies, a policeman

THE BEST "top" things lists of the year are always in The Face. This year, the magazine provides us with The Ten Stupidest Things Said on the Jo Wiley Show. For example, there's Björk on fame: "Before you get famous, you've got hair, right, and it grows a bit. Then it grew a bit. People come up to me now and say: 'You've got a new image!' 'Cause of the hair."

THE FACE'S editor, Adam Higginbotham, was one of those approached by Time Out in its current search for a new editor. He turned them down, as did Tom Hodgkinson, editor of the innovative and frankly silly magazine for loafers, The Idler. So up steps Vicky Mayer, launch editor of Inside Soop magazine and former features editor of the TV Times.

ANALYSIS PAUL MCCANN

Young readers desert newspapers

ANOTHER MONTH, another set of depressing circulation figures for the Sun, too, has had a bad depressing circulation figures for the national press. Every single daily newspaper, with the exception of one, lost sales in November compared with October.

The only paper to buck the trend was The Guardian, which increased sales by an average of just 800 copies a day - and that was largely due to increasing the number of papers they ship overseas (a tactic employed by most newspapers). Every copy sent, rather than sold, to other

countries counts against circulation. The Independent's sale actually increased month on month, but some 4,000 copies came off the paper's bulk order.

Making a year-on-year comparison doesn't make things much healthier. The total daily newspaper market is selling 152,000 copies a day fewer than it did last November. Only three daily papers have increased sales year on year, and one of those, the Financial Times, has done all of that overseas.

Particularly hard hit has been The Times, which has raised its price to 30p every day of the week. It has lost 53,000 buyers compared to last year. Also down by 53,000 is The Daily Telegraph, which last year worked hard on its subscriptions with a voucher giveaway and cross-pro-

month. It lost 59,000 copies compared with October, when it lost 12,000. David Yelland has been unable to stem the paper's sales decline during his first six months in charge. The paper lost 100,000 readers compared with the same six months last year. The rate of decline has slowed slightly, however, to 2.65

In the Sunday market, only the Independent on Sunday, which reduced its price for one day, has risen month on month, by 1,500 copies a day - and compared to last November, every Sunday paper's circulation is down. In all, the Sunday market sold a staggering 773,000 fewer papers on Sundays in November than they did last year.

"Newspapers are a long-term declining market," says Laura James, head of press for New PHD. a media buying agency. She believes the long-term consequence of such decline will mean that it becomes impossible for advertisers to

hit large numbers of people quickly. "We have not hit the crisis yet." she says. "But already advertisers are having to find more specialist areas to get coverage of their target audience to go up." This accounts for the growth in the magazine market

	0 b 1000	N	
Daily newspapers	October 1998	November 1998	% change
The Mirror	2,339,001	2.322.684	-0.70
Daily Star	558,402	539,944	-3.31
The Sun	3.718.534	3.658.704	-1.61
The Express	1,118,981	1,097,895	-1.88
Daily Mail	2.387.867	2.310.025	-3.26
Daily Telegraph	1,047,861	1.041.447	-0.61
Guardian	393.856	394.655	+0.20
Independent	223,110	221,229	-0.84
Times	766.999	748,197	-2.45
Sunday newspapers			
News of the World	4,316,825	4,196,149	-2.80
Sunday Mirror	2.052.371	2,015,652	-1.79
Sunday People	1.705.359	1,659,089	-2.71
Mail on Sunday	2.396.598	2.321.976	-3.11
Express on Sunday	1,027,820	1,003,064	-2,41
Independent on Sunday	253,629	255,196	+0.62
Observer	404,422	395.205	-2.28
Sunday Telegraph	823.587	816,604	-0.85
Sunday Times	1,398,044	1.364.276	-2.42

and radio, as advertisers look for other ways to get their message in says Ms James. 'Instead of relifront of people.

Particularly problematic is the disappearance of the 15-to-24-yearold reader. They are the fastestdisappearing demographic group. and they should be the future market for newspapers.

from other sources, and the role of and television listings."

giously buying the same newspaper every day for news, we are seeing a generation who decide to buy a newspaper on a Monday for sport and who will then not buy a newspaper all week until Saturday, when they may very well buy a different "They are getting their news newspaper for its magazine section

The barbarous coast

Kent's local papers are whipping up anti-immigrant sentiment – but they're not, of course, racist. By Steve Platt

t wasn't clear whether the Folkestone Herold was aping The Sun or The Sunday Sport: "Town centre call-girls in Folkestone claim immigrant women have sunk to an all-time low selling their bodies for the price of a spud," it reported last month, in the midst of the media frenzy over asylum-seekers coming into Britain. "The blouses are coming off as refugee 'potato patch dollies' are winning their own version of the war of the undieworlds," the paper punned. "A local prostitute reckons that Slovak 'working women' have a new motto: For mash, read cash. The 29-yearold Folkestone call-girl says she is fed up with immigrants stealing customers with incredibly low prices."

The paper gave it the full treatment - including the po-faced official police statement that "they have had no reports of Slovaks soliciting but would like to hear from anyone who has". Evidently unsure itself whether to treat the story as a joke or a serious news item, the Herald hedged its bets by printing a rebuttal from a local refugee organisation explaining why it was extremely unlikely that any of the "family-orientated" Romany refugees in the town would be in-

volved in prostitution. In an area where anti-refugee feeling is running high, and where some people seem to be prepared to believe almost anything about asylum-seekers, such an "exclusive" ceases to be simply daft and becomes dangerous as well. Here, for instance, are just two of the "33 rea-



Asylum-seekers staying on the south coast of England have been falsely accused of prostitution

Andrew Buurman

here is how the Dover Express, 15 October, reported the views of one of the leaflet's authors, under the headline "DSS cheats are now into brothels": "A Dover woman wants local people to join her in putting pressure on the Government into doing something about the number of immigrants in town. Sheila Farrell, 63, of Avenue Road, Dover, hopes enough people will show an interest in going to Westminster to

lobby Parliament that it will make

refugees' supposed involvement in it worthwhile hiring a coach." crime, their preferential treatment The article then quotes her at length: "Immigrants get so much over longstanding residents and more benefits than local people... the luxurious lifestyle they enjoy at They've taken over loads of hous-British taxpayers' expense - DSS "crisis loans" of up to £1,000 are said es... The education department is paying for a 52-seat bus to take four to be spent at the local Argos jewellery counter, where the asylumimmigrant children to school while seekers can be seen "getting their mums and their youngsters have to friends to take photographs to send walk... One asylum seeker is being back to their families and show housed though he won £150,000 on the National Lottery... The police them their new-found wealth". The rantings of an extreme anti-

sons why we should send them

back", listed in a leaflet widely cir-

culated in the Dover and Folkestone

area recently: "No medical checks

on refugees - with the knowledge of

their promiscuity and selling sex for

money, who is to answer for the epi-

demic of venereal diseases that will

undoubtedly become rife?": "A local

hospital has advised that in the

event of any blood contact with

these people, medical help is of the

The leaflet also rages against

utmost importance."

immigrant minority? Certainly. But because of immigrants shoplifting. And at least three brothels have popped up around Dover...'

In case you thought this coverage of Sheila Farrell's unsubstantiated prejudices was a one-off aberration, it's worth looking at how the Dover Express has been treating these issues week in and week out.

"Builder pays a high price to stem the flow," said its headline over another report in October about how a local builder-who intends to stand for the British National Party in next year's local elections - was "refusing work from businesses which accommodate asylum seekers, immigrants and refugees". "We are sitting on a time bomb that must be defused now," announced its editorial that same issue. "Every week we report fresh outpourings of resentment over the tide of immigrants arriving through our port. It is easy to dismiss these as the opinions of an extremist minority." We

majority of townsfolk are not racist But they ARE alarmed by what they believe is an escalating prob-

The vast majority may well not be racist. But a significant minority have been given voice - and legitimacy - for the sort of opinions that defy any other description. This, finally, was the Dover Express on 1 October, in an editorial headed "We want to wash dross down drain", published during the Labour Party conference in Blackpool.

"Illegal immigrants, asylum seek ers, bootleggers... and scum of the earth drug smugglers have targeted our beloved coastline," the paper raged. "Kent Police have their backs to the sea and are being pushed closer to the cliff edge. While Labour luvvies dribble on at Blackpool we are left with the backdraft of a nation's human sewage and NO CASH to wash it down the drain."

You don't have to be a racist to are called out up to 15 times a day shouldn't do so, it seems: "The vast publish that - but it helps.

Statesmen and the 'Statesman'

Is there a Labour conspiracy behind the latest ownership bid? By Paul McCann

THE FUTURE ownership of the New Statesman is less about the success or failure of a weekly news magazine than the machinations, conspiracy theories and paranoia of Labour ministers. But it makes a good tale.

The story that Robert Harris, the millionaire author of Fatherland and a Sundoy Times columnist, was planning to buy the magazine from the ailing Postmaster General, Geoffrey Robinson, actually emerged in the form of a small paragraph in the Daily Mail in July. It was a small bomb which did not detonate - until this weekend.

Harris's interest re-emerged in the form of a well-spun story from the Vienna summit of European leaders on Friday and Saturday. Labour insiders believe the fingerprints of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's entourage in Vienna, namely his press secretary Charlie Whelan, are all over the story. The conspiracy theorists speculate that Mr Brown's friends re-leaked the story in order to try to scupper any deal between Mr Harris and Geoffrey Robinson's representatives. Because of Cabinet regulations, Mr Robinson has to have his business interests controlled by trustees to prevent conflicts of interest.

Mr Robinson is in Mr Brown's camp and his magazine is thought likely to help co-ordinate any future bid for the Labour leadership. Certainly it is in Mr Brown's interest to have the magazine attack Tony Blair from his political position, slightly to the left of the Prime Minister, rather than become a cheerleader for Blair under Mr Harris.

The Brown camp is thought to be concerned that Mr Robinson, whose career hangs in the balance after his apology to Parliament for placing some of his wealth in off-shore tax havens, might currently be in the mood to sell to Mr Harris in order to save his career. The logic of the Brown camp thesis is that Mr Robinson pleases Mr Blair and Mr Mandelson by selling the New Statesman to a Blair supporter - Mr



Robert Harris

Harris-and Blair in return rewards him by not kicking him out of the

In the middle is Mr Harris and Peter Wilby, editor of the New Statesman, who says the owner of the magazine never interferes with what he writes anyway. Mr Harris yesterday said that if he wins control of the title he would keep Mr Wilby in place. He says he has thought about buying the Statesman since the Eighties: "I see owning it it as a service to the left. It would be good fun - I would be publisher and I'd make it more entertaining. I want to see the writing come before the policy, not the other way around." He denies any desire to make it a Blairite fanzine: "The worst thing you could do is make the magazine look like a vehicle for any faction," Mr Harris said.

The whole argument may yet be academic. Mr Harris maintains claims about his wealth are exaggerated and that he needs partners to help him find the £3m it will likely take to buy the magazine. "Now that it is out in the open I hope people come forward," he said.

Despite Mr Harris's claims that! better writing is needed to help grow the New Statesman and Mr Wilby's efforts to boost its arts coverage, it is difficult to escape the notion that as long as it remains a plaything for Labour Party heavy-hit-

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型PIG IN THE CITY [] -

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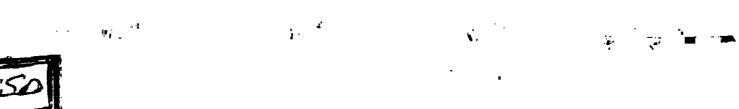
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NEW FILMS

THE BOYS (18) Director: Rowan Woods

ESDAY REVIEW TO DESCRIPTION &

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Starring: David Wenham, Toni Collette, Lynette

Out of jail after serving a sentence for GBH, oncessing the David Wenham) moves back by Brett Sprague (David Wenham) moves back bis mum's drab suburban home, terrorises By Paul MeCau his girlfriend (Toni Collette), and turns his younger brothers into petty henchmen.

Adapted from Gordon Graham's acclaimed stage-play. The Boys spotlights the flipside of life Down Under, with a stark social-realist drama circling gracefully around a horrific crime which is hinted at but never actually shown.

Occasionally, the film's theatrical origins are too readily apparent, but Rowan Woods' stealthy handling and Wenham's menacing lead ensure that the interest seldom dwindles. Potent. predatory stuff.

West End: Metro, Ritzy Cinema

THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG) **Director: Martin Campbell**

Starring: Antonio Banderas, Anthony Hopkins, Catherine Zeta Jones

The Zorro yarn resurrected. Martin "Golden Eye" Campbell's gaudy swashbuckler gallops fullspeed through 19th-century California in the company of Antonio Banderas's authentically Hispanic do-gooder. A bite-sized history lesson on West Coast politics jostles for purchase amid a riot of colourful duels and clattering action setpieces. It's old-fashioned and reliably entertaining, Anthony Hopkins and Catherine Zeta-Jones bring a whiff of the valleys to their father-and-daughter co-star slots.

West End: Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Odeon Samden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Fulham Road

THE PARENT TRAP (PG)

Director: Nancy Meckler Starring: Lindsay Lohan, Natacha Richardson. The Parent Trap catches Disney cannibalising its own back catalogue; re-heating its 1961 Hayley Mills heartwarmer into a spry, cross-cultural caper starring Lindsay Lohan as the separatedat-birth twin sisters (one British, one American) determined to get their parents (Natasha Richardson and Dennis Quaid: back together. It's a film of sleek, clean surfaces, bright colours and neat knockabout comedy. But a thick layer of syrup covers every inch.

West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Murble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odean West End, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin

PLAYING GOD (18) Director: Andy Wilson

Starring: David Duchovny, Timothy Hutton

Cracker director Wilson suffers a rude lesson in Hollywood politics with this glossy but garbled thriller about a junkie doctor (David Duchovny) embroiled with a gang of counterfeiters headed by a hammy Tim Hutton.

Essentially a star vehicle for Duchovny, Playing God nonetheless conspires to steer a most ill-disciplined course, swerving from grisly violence (cue jets of arterial blood) to a po-faced character study (Duchovny wants his licence back) to surrealistic comedy (an encounter with a bunch of saintly bikers). Hutton and his cronies indulge in all manner of insipid gangster chat, but they look like a limp and spindly bunch who would be hard pushed fighting their way out of a paper bag. Duchovny and luminous co-star Angeline Jolie look on stupefied.

West End: Virgin Fulliam Road, Warner Village West End

Nathaniel Hulley

GENERAL RELEASE

If nothing else, this computer-animated trifle is surely the most unlikely Woody Allen movie we will "Z" who breaks out from his totalitarian rut when he falls in with the regal Princess Bala (Sharon Stone). West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, eon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Šviss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea. Virgin Trocadero

BABE: PIG IN THE CITY (U)

The follow-up to Babe tosses the hapless *sheeppig" into the midst of the city where he becomes the unlikely saviour of a bunch of assorted waifs. Knockabout comedy is kept to a minimum in favour of a bleak animatronic fairy tale. West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road. Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Empire Leicester Sauare, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Geon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin

BLADE (18) A techno soundtrack bumps and grinds behind this monotonous arcade game thriller about a New York vampire-killer tackling a power-crazed new bloodsucker. Noise and martial arts action mask its tinny pedigree. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Ritzy Cinema. UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Trocadero. Warrer Village West End

DANCING AT LUGHNASA (PG)

Less a dance, more of a trudge, O'Connor's Ireland-set saga pinpoints the ebb and flow of an eccentric Catholic family in deepest Donegal. What gives it backbone is Meryl Streep's regal performance as the brood's eldest sister, plus the ever-watchable Michael Gambon as the homecoming brother. Kathy Burke, Catherine McCormack and Brid Brennan also feature. West End: Curzon Maufair. Notting Hill Coronet. Screen on the Hill

DEAD MAN'S CURVE (15)

All the students at writer-director Dan Rosen's capeless American college are trying to butcher en other, led into temptation by an obscure regulation that awards straight A-grades to the room-mates of suicides. Though not as deliciously nasty as the Scream films, Dead Man's Curve delivers a respectable quota of drive-in shocks. West End: ABC Piccodilly, Virgin Trocadero

Shekhar Kapur's follow-up to Bandit Queen is the story of a woman struggling to gain purchase in a male world. But Kapur largely neglects the opportunities for fun in a film which ultimately tells a tale of independence triumphing over cruelty. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Haymarket, Odeon Mezzanine. Odeon Swiss Cottage, Screen on the Green, Virgin Fulham Read

TRE END OF VIOLENCE (15)

Wim Wenders is back on form with this stylish and intelligent techno-noir about a Nasa plot to "end violence as we know it" through mass surveillance. West End: Ritzy Cinema

FEAR AND LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS (18) Terry Gilliam's adaptation tilts at Ralph Steadman cartoonery for its tale of a drug-fuelled journalistic assignment. The film soon descends into a carnival of narcotic lunacy and the one stand-out is Johnny Depp - who brings Hunter S Thompson into bald-headed, pigeon-toed life. West End: ABC Baker Street, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Camden Town, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Virgin Fulham Road Green, Virain Haymarket

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (U)

Capra's festive bauble is a lot darker and more complex than it is generally given credit for, with James Stewart's labouring everyman shown how dreary his hometown would have been had he never best born, before returning merrily to his Job-like

LEFT LUGGAGE (PG)

Krabbe's first stab as a director focuses on the ebbs and flows within a Hasidic family in 1970s Holland. ever see. The nerd icon allegedly re-wrote the bulk Fitful as drama, the film comes to life as a showof his dialogue to provide the voice of worker-ant case for its high-profile performers plus rising star Laura Fraser. West End: ABC Swiss Centre. Curzon Minema, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Phoenix Cinema, Rio Cinema, Screen on Baker Street

LOCK, STOCK & TWOSMOKING BARRELS

Lock. Stock and Two Smoking Burrels follows the lead of Quentin Tarantino but the film's defining characteristic is its resilient morality. The picture is peopled by thugs, both amateur and professional. Young Eddy, who comes unstuck in a high stakes card-game, falls into the former, but Hatchet Harry, to whom he owes £500,000, is a dangerous old-school pro. West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Panton Street, Clapham Picture House, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Mezzanine, Rio Cinema, Warner Village West End

MULAN (U)

Disney's animated feature has a pro-active heroine; a strong father/daughter relationship; honour and nobility; and, of course, cross-dressing. It's also one of the most visually innovative movies that Disney has ever made. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Mezzanine. Odeon Suriss Cottage. UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Chelsea. Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

MY NAME IS JOE (15)

Ken Loach's solid social-realist drama tells the tale of Joe (Peter Mulian), a recovering alcoholic torn between his old life (drugs, crime) and his new (a romance with Louise Goodall's middle-class health visitor). My Name is Joe brilliantly spotlights the groping hopes and thwarted ambitions of Britain caught below the poverty line. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Hill, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket

THE NEGOTIATOR (15)

Samuel L Jackson and Kevin Spacey go head to head in Gray's thrilling drama. The script has a predilection for hunk-headed swearing that sounds uneasy in the mouths of such articulate, rhetorical performers. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road. Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

ON CONNAIT LA CHANSON (PG)

Alain Resnais' latest work features a lot of Potteresque lip-synching to popular French show tunes. The whole thing is less a rounded film, more an uneasy filmic experiment. West End: Chelsea

George Clooney plays the law-breaking hero as a down-and-dirty version of Cary Grant, and turns in the best performance of his career so far. He seems to be a grown-up film star when most of Hollywood's male heart throbs don't look old enough to get served in a pub. West End: Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero

RONIN (15)

John Frankenheimer's 40 years as a feature director lend an air of knackered resignation to his tired espionage thriller about a gang of mercenaries in pursuit of a mysterious silver suitcase. As the leader of the gang, Robert De Niro does his blank-faced, gristle-chewing act. West End: Odeon Kensington, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys,

RUSH HOUR (15)

Rush Hour marries Jackie Chan with an LA backdrop, a jobbing Hollywood director and a wisecracking black comic in Chris Tucker's huckstering LAPD man. It's a hit-and-miss affair. West End: Elephant & Castle Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble existence. West End: Clapham Picture House, Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema. Curzon Soho, Gate Notting Hill, Phoenix Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

Out of Sight (15)

This tale of love on opposite sides of the law from director Steven Soderbergh manages to knock spots off every previous Elmore Leonard adaptation, and hoasts in George Clooney and Jennifer Lopez, the most romantic pairing of the

THE FIVE BEST FILMS

Antz (PG)

Computer-animated comedy voiced by a stellar cast stars Woody Allen as a worker ant who becomes an unlikely opponent of the colony's totalitarian regime. Allen's best work in a while,

My Name is Joe (15)

All that one would expect from a film by Ken Loach (right) - emotional sympathy, indignation and humour - all driven by Peter Mulian's scary, intense performance as a recovering alcoholic in a bleak vision of Glasgow.

John Frankenheimer's action thriller is buttressed by a fine international cast (Robert De Niro, Jean Reno, Stellan Skarsgard), moody French locations and a clutch of supercharged car chases.

The Fountainhead (PG; Curzon Soho)

Gary Cooper plays a visionary architect who refuses to buckle under mob pressure in King Vidor's astonishing adaptation of the Ayn Rand novel. Patricia Neal smoulders opposite him.

ANTHONY QUINN

THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

Martin Guerre West Yorkshire

Playhouse, Leeds The gifted young Irish director Conall Morrison (nglu) stages a second reworking of the troubled Boubil/ Schoenberg musical. Will it be third timelucky? To 13 Feb

Love Upon the Throne

Comedy Theatre The Charles and Diana story (well up to the divorce) presented by the National Theatre of Brent, Hilarious and oddly touching. To 31 Jar:

Angela Carter Cinderella Lyric, Hammersmith

This feast of inspired silliness and visual magic by Angela Carter has lashings of drag and double entendres, plus the best mice on a West End stage.

The Boy Who Feli into 7 Book Stephen Joseph Theatre, Scarborough

Typically witry and ingenious concept from Alan Ayekbourn - here wearing his children's dramatist hat. To 9 Jan

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe Royal Shakespeare Theatre. Stratford

Anthony Ward's splendid sets and Aslan are the stars of the Royal Shakespeare Company's Christmas spectacular, To 27 Feb.

PAUL TAYLOR

THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Aubrey Beardsley Victoria & Albert Museum

Displaying the short, glittering life of the aesthete and illustrator, with his sinuous and florid line. Drawings, prints and posters. To 10 Jan

Rosemarie Trockel Whitechapel Gallery Influential German artist; includes a sculpture of a seal called No one under the sun is more miserable than the man who has a fetish for a lady's shoe and must make do with the whole woman. To 7 Feb

Chris Ofili Whitworth Gallery, Manchester

This 1998 Turner Prizewinner (right) is an upheat original, his surfaces dense and decorative, with swirls of dots, eyes, Afros and black icons, as well as incorporating mutant balls of elephant dung. To 24 Jun

Goya: The

Disparates

Maidstone Museum

& Art Gallery Gova was deaf, ill and in his seventies when he produced his last series of etchings. Mysterious in intention, it is a void world: life is folly, men fly off

Edward Burne-Jones Birmingham

Centenary exhibition gathers together many favourites illustrating Burne-Jones's romantic and medievalist nether world. To 17 Jan

TOM LUBBOCK

CINEMA

ABC BAKER STREET (0870 9020418) & Baker Street Babe: Pig In The City 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas 2.25pm, 5.25pm, 8.15pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 8.30pm

ABC PANTON STREET Circus The Last Days Of Disco 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.25pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6pm. 8.30pm A Perfect Murder 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm The

3.50pm. 6.10pm, 8.35pm Victory 1.10pm, 6.10pm ARC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE

3.55pm, 6.35pm, 8.30pm ABC SWISS CENTRE (0870 9020403) O Leicester Square/Piccadilly Circus Angel Sharks (Marie Baie Des Anges)

3.45pm, 6.05pm,

ROAD (0870 9020414) & Tottenham Court Road Antz 1.25pm, 6.35pm Babe: Pig In The City 1.35pm, 4pm, 6.20pm Elizabeth 3.40pm, 8.55pm My Name is Joe 1.15pm, 3.55pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm The Negotiator 8.50pm

(0171-351 3742) O Sloane Square On Connait La Chanson

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (2171-498 3323) & Clapham Common Babe: Pig In The City 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm It's A Wonderful Life 1.30pm, 6.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 4pm, 9.15pm The Mask

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) & Green Park Dancing At Lughnasa 2pm. 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

12,30pm, 5pm, 7.15pm

ELEPHANT & CASTLE

(0990-888990) & Leicester Square Babe: Pig In The City 1.15pm, 3.45pm Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas 12.40pm, 3.30pm Out Of Sight 12.10pm.

(0171-734 1506) Piccadilly Circus/Leicester Square The Boys 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Buffalo 66 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm.

orner Left Luggage 2.50pm. 6.50pm La Vie Revée Des Anges NOTTING HILL CORONET

(0171-369 1723) Hyde Park

(0171-727 6705) O Notting Hill Gate Dancing At Lughnasa 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm, **ODEON CAMDEN TOWN**

(08705 050007) ← Camden Town Babe: Pig In The City 12.10am, Babe: Pig In The City 12.10am, 2.10pm. 4.15pm. 6.15pm The Mask Of Zorro 11.50am, 2.40pm. 5.40pm, 8.30pm The Negotiator 8.20pm Out Of Sight 12noon, 3pm, 5.55pm. 8.40pm The Parent Trap 12.15pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm Rush Hour 11.55am, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm 6.40pm, 9.05pm

ODEON HAYMARKET (08705 050007) & Piccadilly Circus Elizabeth 2.15pm, 5pm,

ODEON KENSINGTON (08705 050007) ⊕ High Street Kensington Babe: Pig In The City 12noon, 2.25pm, 4.50pm, 7.15pm Blade 9.35pm The Mask Of Zorro 2.25pm, 5.40pm. Of Zorro 2.25pm, 5.40pm, 8.55pm Out Of Sight 12.20pm. 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm The Parent Trap 12noon, 3pm, 6.05pm, 9 10pm Ronin 12.30pm, 3.25pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm Rush Hour 1.55pm, 4 30pm, 7.05pm.

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE
(08705 050007) & Leicester
Square The Mask Of Zorro
11.40pm. 2.30pm. 5.25pm.

ODEON MEZZANINE (08705 050007) ← Leicester Square Elizabeth 12.35pm, 3.05pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm. 8.35pm Les Miserables 2.35pm 8.35pm Les Miserapies 4.35pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm Snake Eyes 2pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.35pm There's Something About Mary 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm,

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE (08705 050007) © Swiss Cottage Antz 1.50pm, 3.50pm, 6pm Babe: Pig In The City 12.10pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm Elizabeth 8.15pm Left Luggage 8.45pm The Mask Of Zorro 1.40pm, 4.55pm, 8pm Out Of Sight 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm The Parent Trap 12.15pm, 3.05pm, 5.45pm, 12.15pm, 3.05pm, 5.45pm. 8.25pm Rush Hour 1.30pm. 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

ODEON WEST END (08705 050007) ↔ Leicester Square The Parent Trap 12.15pm. 3pm. 5.40pm, 8.30pm 12.35pm,

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA 5.45pm, 8pm, 10.05pm

Luggage 1.45pm 6.45pm, 9pm (0990-888990) ← Piccadilly Circus Antz 1.15pm, 3.30pm Rush Hour 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Saving Private Ryan 3.15pm, 7.15pm The Truman Show 6pm.

(0171-837 8402) ← Russell Square On Connait La Chanson 1pm. 3.30pm. 6pm, 8.35pm The Philadelphia Story 1.30pm. 3.55pm. 6.20pm, 8.45pm

The Negotiator 3.20pm, 6.20pm, RITZY CINEMA
(0171-733 2229) BR-⊕ Snxton
The Boys 1.30pm, 3.25pm,
5.20pm, 7.20pm, 9.25pm The
End Of Violence 2pm It's A
Wonderful Life ipm, 6.25pm (+
Short: Whoosh) The Mask Of
Zorro 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 8.55pm
My Name Is Joe 3.45pm, 9.10pm
(+ Short: The Man Who held His
Breath) Out Of Sight 1.10pm

BARNET

Breach) Out Of Sight 1.10pm, 3.55pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm (+ Short: Vacuum) Rush Hour 4.15pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-935 2772) & Baker Street Left Luggage 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm. 9pm Out Of Sight 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

SCREEN ON THE GREEN (0171-226 3520) & Angel Elizabeth 3.35pm La Vie Revée Des Anges 6.15pm, 8.40pm

SCREEN ON THE HILL (0171-435 3366) ← Belsize Park Dancing At Lughnasa 2.45pm. 4.45pm, 6.45pm My Name Is Joe 8.50pm

UCI WHITELEYS

3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.50pm The Negotiator 3.10pm, 6pm, 9pm Out Of Sight 3.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.15pm The Parent Trap 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9.05pm Ronin 8.40pm Rush Hour 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm Snake Eyes 9.30pm

VIRGIN CHELSEA (0870-9070710) O OS/1-90/10) Grane Square/South Kensington Antz 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm My Name Is Joe 9pm Out Of Sight 12.20pm, 3pm. 6.10pm, 8.45pm The Parent Trap 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Rush Hour 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.15pm

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD Virgin Fulliam ROAD (0870-9070711) ← South Kensington Babe: Pig In The City Ipm, 3.45pm. 6.40pm Elizabeth 2pm, 5.30pm. 8.20pm The Mask Of Zorro 12.20pm, 3.10pm. 6.10pm, 9.10pm The Negotiator 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm Playing God 1.30pm. 4.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Ronin 9.30pm There's Something About Mary 12.50pm, 3.20pm, 6pm. 8.50pm

VIRGIN HAYMARKET (0870-9070712) Θ Piccadilly Circus Fear And Loathing in Las Vegas 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6pm. 8.35pm My Name Is Joe 12.55pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm There's Something About Mary 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm

VIRGIN TROCADERO Grus Antz 12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm Babe: Pig in The City 1pm, 3.20pm, 5.40pm, 8.10pm Blade 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm The Negotiator 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Out Of Sight 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Rush Hour 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7nm, 9.20pm The Truman Show

7pm, 9.20pm The Truman Show 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9pm WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) ♦ Leicester Square Blade 1.20pm, 4pm, 40pm, 9.20pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Lethal Weapon 4 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm The Negotiator 12.10pm, 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm A Perfect Murder 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Playing God 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Rush Hour 12.50pm, 1.50pm, 3.20pm, 4.20pm, 5.50pm, 6.30pm, 7pm,

> **CINEMA LONDON LOCALS**

ACTON PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) + Park Royal Antz (1181-390 (U00) O PARK ROYAL ARIZ 12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm Babe: Pig In The City 12.05pm, 1.30pm, 2.20pm, 3.50pm, 4.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Bar-rels 10.10pm The Mask Of Zorro 8.55pm

9.30pm Out Of Sight 6.10pm, 9.05pm The Parent Trap 2.50pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Rush Hour 2pm. 2.40pm, 4.20pm, 5.05pm, 6.50pm, 7.30pm, 9.15pm, 9.55pm

ODEON (08705 050007) ← High Barnet Antz 1.40pm, 3.25pm Babe:
Pig In The City 1.35pm, 3.40pm,
5.55pm The Mask Of Zorro
1.55pm, 4.55pm, 7.55pm The
Negotiator 8.10pm Out Of Sight
5.30pm, 8.30pm The Parent Trap
1.45pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Push 1.45pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Rush Hour 2.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm

BEÇKENHAM ABC (0870 9020412) BR: Beckenham Junction Babe: Pig in The City 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 8.55pm The Parent Trap 2.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.30pm Rush Hour 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm

BEXLEVHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR: CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR: Bexleyheath Antz 1.40pm. 3.40pm. 5.40pm, 7.40pm Babe: Pig In The City 12.30pm, 1.15pm, 2.45pm, 3.30pm. 5pm, 6pm Blade 2pm, 4.45pm, 7.15pm, 9.40pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hai 2.30pm, 6pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 7.15pm. 9.45pm The Mask Of Zorro 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm Out rro 12ncon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm Qui Of Sight 1pm, 4pm, 7pm, 9.40pm The Parent Trap 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm Ronin 9.40pm Rush Hour 12.20pm, 2.35pm, 4.45pm, 7.15pm, 8pm, 9.35pm, 10pm There's Something About

BROMLEY

ODEON (08705 050007) BR: Bromley North/Bromley South Antz phone for details Babe: Pig In The City phone for details The Mask Of Zorro phone for details Mulan phone for details Out Of Sight phone for details The Parent Trap phone for details Rush Hour phone for details

CATFORD ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Catford. Babe: Pig In The City 1pm, 3.30pm, 5.45pm The Negotiator 8pm Rush Hour 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm,

8.45pm CROYDON CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) BR: Croydon West/East It's A Won-derful Life 2.15pm, 5pm Saving Pri-

vate Ryan 7.45pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon Antz 1.10pm, 3.10pm, 5.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.15pm Babe: Pig In The City 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.45pm, 7.20pm Blade 1.20pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.50pm Lock, Stock & Tive Smok-ing Barrals 9.45pm The Mark Of 9.50pm Lock, Stock & Two Smok-ing Barrels 9.45pm The Mask Of Zorro 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm The Negotiator 11.40am, 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.45pm Out Of Sight 12.50pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.25pm The Parent Trap 11.45am, 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Rush Hour 1.50pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) → Dagenham Heathway Antz. 1 40pm, 3.50pm, 5.45pm, 7.40pm. 1 40pm, 3.50pm, 5.45pm, 7.40pm, 9.40pm Babe: Pig in The City 12.50pm, 3pm, 5.30pm, 7.50pm Blade 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 10.05pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 9.15pm The Mask Of Zorro 1.35pm, 4.20pm, 7.05pm, 9.50pm The Negotiator 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm Out Of Sieht 20m, 4.40pm, 7.20pm, 10pm Sight 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.20pm, 10pm The Parent Trap 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm Rush Hour 1.10pm, 2pm, 3.30pm, 4.20pm. 6.20pm, 7pm, 9pm. 9.30pm

VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-9070719) BR/O Ealing Broadway Babe: Pig In The City 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 5.45pm The Mask Of Zorro 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Out Of Sight 8.15pm Rush Hour 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm

BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) Edgware Antz 2.15pm. 4pm
 Jhoole Boie Kauwa Kaate phone for times Kuch Kuch Hota Hai phone for times Mehndi phone for times Partieshi Babu phone for times The Parent Trap 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm Wajood phone for times

EDMONTON LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) O Tottenham Hale Antz 2.40pm. 3.35pm. 4.45pm, 6.55pm Babe: Pig In The City 3pm. 4.10pm, 5.20pm, 7.15pm. 9.45pm Blade 7.05pm, 10pm Doli Sajake Rakhna 8.15pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hai 9.05pm The Mask Of Zorro 2pm, 5.30pm,

on wings into darkness. To 23 Jan

Museum & Art Gallery

The Negotiator 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.30pm Out Of Sight 3.10pm, 6.20pm, 9.25pm The Parent Trap 11.50am, 2.50pm, 5.50pm, 8.50pm Ronin 3.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.35pm Rush Hour 2.30pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6.30pm, 7.40pm, 9.15pm, 10.10pm Saving Private Ryan 9pm Small Soldiers 2.10pm, 4.40pm There's Something About Mary 6.10pm

FINCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 9344) & East Finchley/Finchley Central Antz 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm Babe: Pig In The City 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.20pm Blade 9.45pm The Negotiator 3pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm Out Of Sight 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.40pm The Parent Trap 2.30pm. 5.30pm. 8.30pm Ronin 1.20pm. 4pm. 6.40pm Rush Hour 2.10pm. 4.30pm. 6.40pm. 9.10pm

FINCHLEY ROAD WARNER VILLAGE (0171-604 3110) & Finchley Road Antz 1.40pm, 3.50pm, 5.50pm, 8pm Babe: Pig In The City 12.30pm, 2.50pm, 5.15pm, 7.40pm Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas 10pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Bar-12noon, 310th a live should be arrels 10.15pm The Mask Of Zorro 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm The Negotiator 1pm, 3.55pmm, 6.55pm, 9.45pm Out Of Sight 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm The Parent Trap 12.10pm, 3.10pm 6.10pm, 9.10pm Ronin 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.40pm Rush Hour 1.50pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm,

GOLDERS GREEN ABC (0181-455 1724) O Golders Green Babe: Pig In The City 1.45pm, 4.05pm, 6.20pm The Gov-

emess 8.30pm

HAMPSTEAD

GREENWICH CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich Antz 12noon, 3.30pm, 5.15pm Elizabeth 7pm The Mask Of Zorro 3pm. 5.50pm, 8.40pm Out Of Sight 9.15pm Rush Hour 3.05pm, 5.10pm, 7.20pm, 9.30pm

ABC (0870-9020413) Belsize Park Antz 6pm Babe: Pig In The City 1.30pm. 4pm, 6.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 8.30pm Out Of Sight 2.20pm, 8.10pm The Parent Trap 2.20pm. 5.20pm, 8.10pm HARROW SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303)

 Harrow on the Hill/Harrow &
 Wealdstone Doli Sajake Rakhna
 1.30pm, 5pm Fire 8.45pm Kudrat
 1.30pm, 5pm The Soldier (Asian FI!m) 8.45pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9.15pm Babe: Pig In The City 11.45am, 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm Blade 11.05am, 1.40pm, 4.15pm, 6.55pm, 9.30pm Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas 9.30pm The Mask Of Zorro 11.15am, 2.20pm, 5.25pm, 8.30pm The Negotlator 12.45pm, 3.45pm, 6.35pm, 9.45pm Out Of Sight 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 5.55pm, 8.45pm The Parent Trap 1.05pm, 3.55pm, 6.45pm, 9.25pm Rush Hour 11am, 11.50am.

1.30pm, 2.10pm, 4.0pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm, 7.10pm, 9pm, 9.40pm HOLLOWAY

ODEON (08705 050007) Archway Antz 12.30pm, 2.35pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm Babe: Pig In The City 12.05pm, 2.15pm, 4.25pmm, 6.35pm Blade 8.45pm The Mask Of Zorro 1.50pm, 4.55pm, 8.15pm The Negotiator 2.25pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Out Of Sight 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm The Parent Trap 12.20pm, 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Ronin 8.40pm Rush Hour 12.05pm, 1.45pm, 2.20pm, 4pm, 4.35pm, 6.15pm, 6.50pm, 8.30pm, 9.05pm

Antz 2.35pm, 4.25pm, 6.25pm Babe: Pig In The City 1.20pm,

3.40pm, 6pm Blade 8.25pm The

Mask Of Zorro 1.50pm, 5pm, 8pm

Out Of Sight 8.15pm The Parent Trap 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm Rush

Hour 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm KINGSTON ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR: Kingston Babe: Pig in The City 1.10pm. 3.25pm, 6.25pm Blade 8.25pm The Parent Trap 2.10pm, 10pm, 8pm Rush Hour 1.30pm

3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm **MUSWELL HILL**

ODEON (08705 050007) & Highgate Babe: Pig In The City 1.50pm, 4pm, 6.15pm The Mask Of Zorro 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Out Of Sight 8.35pm The Parent Trap 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.25pm

WEST END

Wisdom Of Crocodiles 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm ABC PICCADILLY O Piccadilly Circus Dead Man's Curve 4.05pm, 8.45pm Hamam: The Turkish Bath 1.25pm,

(0870 9020402)

Leicester Square/Tottenham Court Road Slums Of Beverly Hills 1.05pm. 3.20pm, 7.05pm, 9pm Texas Chainsaw Massacre 1.35pm,

1.30pm, 3.25pm, 5.20pm, 7.15pm, 9.10pm The Governess 7.13pm, 5.10pm fac Soverness, 1.45pm, 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm Left Luggage 1.30pm, 6.55pm Rien Ne Va Plus 4.45pm, 9.05pm La Vie Revée Des Anges

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT

1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

Of Zorro 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Out Of Sight 9.30pm

(0171-734 2255 (12pm-6pm) Leicester Square/Tottenham Court Road The Eel 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm The Fountainhead 2.45pm, 9.30pm Henry Fool 3.20pm, 9pm It's A Wonderful Life 12.45pm. Wonderful Life 12.45pm. 6.30pm The Philadelphia Story

(0171-703 4968) & Elephant 6 Castle Babe: Pig in The City 4pm. 6.20pm. 8.30pm The Mask Of Zorro 4.30pm, 8.10pm Rush Hour 4.10pm, 6.30pm. EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) O Notting Hill Gate It's A Wonderful Life 1.40pm; (+ Short: Whoosh) Out Of Sight 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm

5.45pm, 8.25pm

PHOENIX CINEMA (0181-444 6789) + East Finchley It's A Wonderful Life 4pm Left

8.30pm Twilight 1pm, 3.45pm. 6.15pm, 8.35pm RENOIR

RIO CINEMA (0171-254 6677) BR: Dalston Kingsland The Borrowers 4.15pm Henry Fool 8.30pm Left Luggage 6.15pm

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PECKHAM

PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye Antz 12noon, 3.30pm, 5.15pm Babe: Pig In The City 2.50pm, 4.50pm, 6.45pm Blade 4.10pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm Elizabeth 7pm The Mask Of Zorro 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm The Negotlator 8,40pm Out Of Sight 9.20pm The Parent Trap 4,15pm, 6.40pm, 9pm Rush Hour 3.05pm, 5.10pm, 7.20pm, 9.30pm

PURLEY Babe: Pig in The City 5,30pm Blade 8.15pm The Parent Trap 5.05pm, 8.05pm Rush Hour 5.35pm.

PUTNEYABC (0870 9020401) ⊕ Putney Bridge, BR: Putney, Antz 5,115pm Babe: Pig In The City 1,30pm, 3,45pm, 6pm The Negotiator 8,15pm Out Of Sight 2,15pm, 8,15pm The Parent Trap 2,15pm,

5.15pm, 8.15pm

RICHMOND ODEON (08705 050007) BR/O-Richmond The Mask Of Zorro 2.10pm, 5.40pm, 8.40pm The Parent Trap 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Rush Hour 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm

ODEON STUDIO (08705 050007) SPECK STUDIO (68/03/03/03/04/07)
SR/P Richmond Antz 1pm, 3pm,
5pm, 7pm Babe: Pig in The City
1.30pm, 3.40pm, 6pm Dancing At
Lughnasa 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm,
9.20pm The Negotiator 8.40pm
Out Of Sight 12.30pm, 3.10pm,
6pm, 9pm Ronin 8.50pm

ROMFORD ABC (0870-9020419) BR: Romford Babe: Pig In The City 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm Elizabeth 8.05pm The Parent Trap 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.05pm Rush Hour 1.45pm, 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705 ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705 050007) BR: Romford Antz 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.40pm. 6.50pm Babe: Pig in The City 8.40pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.10pm, 2.20pm. 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm The Mask Of Zorro 20m 5.05pm, 8pm Our 6.51ebt. 20m, 5.05pm, 8pm Out Of Sight 12.15pm, 3.10pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm The Parent Trap 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Rush Hour 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 3pm, 4pm, 6pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm, 9pm

SIDCUP ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup Babe: Pig in The City 5.45pm Eliz-abeth 5.20pm, 8.15pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 8.40pm

STAPLES CORNER VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Crick-

VIRGIN (0870-90/U71/) BIC CITCK-lewood Antz 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm Babe: Pig In The City 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.15pm Blade 3pm, 3.45pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm The Mask Of Zorro 3pm, 9.45pm, 6pm, 9pm Out Of Sight 8.45pm The Parent Trap 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm Rush Hour 1pm. 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 9.15pm STREATHAM

ABC (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hill Antz 2.15pm. 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Babe: Pig In The City 1,45pm, 4,05pm, 6,25pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 8.40pm Out Of Sight 2.25pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm

ODEON (08705 050007) BR: Common Babe: Pig In The City 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm Blade 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm The Mask Of Zorro 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm The Nego-tiator 8.20pm The Parent Trap 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm Rush Hour 1.30pm, 3.50pm. 6.10pm, 8.40pm

STRATFORD NEW STRATFORD PICTURE East Babe: Pig In The City 2pm, 4.15pm. 6.15pm The Mask Of Zorro 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Out Of Sight 8.45pm The Parent Trap 12.25pm. 3.10pm, 5.55pm, 8.30pm Rush Hour 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6.45pm, 9.10pm

SURREY QUAYS UCI (0990 888990) ← Surrey Ouays Antz 3.45pm, 6.10pm Babe: Pig In The City 3.15pm, 4.45pm, 5.30pm, 7pm, 7.45pm, 10pm Blade 3.10pm, 9.10pm The Horse Whisperer 5.55pm The Mask Of Zorro 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm The Neator 8.30pm Out Of Sight 4pm, godator 6.30pm Cut of September 17ap 3pm, 6pm, 8.50pm Ronin 9.15pm Rush Hour 4pm, 4.45pm, 6.20pm, 7.15pm, 9pm, 9.40pm

UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR: Suton/O Morden Antz 2.30pm. 4.45pm Babe: Pig in The City 2pm. 3pm. 4.30pm. 6.45pm Blade 5.45pm The Mask Of Zorro 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 9.30pm The Negotiator 9.15pm Out Of Sight 7pm, gotiator 9.15pm Out Or Signi, rpm, 9.45pm The Parent Trap 2.45pm, 6pm, 8.45pm Primary Colors 7pm Rush Hour 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Saving Private Ryan 8.30pm

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519) O Turnpike Lane, Babe: Pig In The City 4pm. 6.20pm. 8.30pm The Mask Of Zorro 4.30pm. 8.10pm Rush Hour 4.10pm. 6.30pm. 8.45pm

UXBRIDGE ODEON (08705 050007) + Uxbridge Babe: Pig in The City 1.30pm. 4pm. 6pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 8.30pm The Mask Of Zorro 1.40pm, 5.10pm, 8.05pm

WALTHAMSTOW ABC (0870-9020424) & Waitham-stow Central Babe: Pig In The City 2.20pm, 5pm The Negotiator 8pm The Parent Trap 2pm, 5pm, 8pm Rush Hour 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.15pm,

WALTON ON THAMES THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-

252825) BR: Walton on Thames Babe: Pig In The City 4.25pm, 6.30pm The Mask Of Zorro 2.20pm, 5.25pm, 8.15pm Les Miserables 2pm Out Of Sight 8.30pm

WELL HALL CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR: Eltham Babe: Pig In The City 4pm, 6.20pm. 8.30pm The Parent Trap 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm

ODEON (08705 050007) BR/O WimbledonAntz 12.25pm, 2.15pm, 4pm Babe: Pig In The City 12.15pm, 2.20pm, 4.25pm, 6.30pm The Mask Of Zorro 11.45am. 2.30pm. 5.20pm. 8.15pm Out Of Sight 5.55pm. 8.30pm The Parent Trap 11.45am. 2.35pm. 5.25pm, 8.15pm Roain 8.30pm Rush Hour 2pm. 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm 5mall Soldiers 11.50am

WOOD GREEN NEW CURZON (0181-347 6664) O Tumpike Lane Jhoole Bole Kauwa Kaare 1.30pm, 8.30pm Kuch Kuch

ABC (0181-989 3463) + South Woodford Babe: Pig In The City 1.25pm, 4pm, 6.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 8.30pm The Negotiator 1.40pm, 5pm, 8pm The Parent Trap 2.10pm,

5.30pm, 8.10pm

WOOLWICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: Woolwich Arsenal Babe: Pig In The City 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm Rush Hour 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

CINEMA REPERTORY

LONDON
CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place
SW7 0171-838 2144/2146 Bernie

NFT South Bank SE1 0171-928
3232 The X-FRes (15) 2.30pm The
English Patient (15) 6pm Arsenic
And Old Lace (PG) 6.15pm The
Incredible Robert Baldick + The
Signahman: Television (NC) 7.30pm
Star Pets: A Tribute To Faithful Friends: Avant-Garde Shorts (NC) 9pm The Guardian Interview With Saul Zaentz (NC) 9.10pm

DOINCE CHARLES I eigester Place WC2 0171-437 8181 The Big Lebowski (18) 2pm The Spanish Prisoner (PG) 5pm Titanic (12)

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Road W6 0171-420 0100 Through The Olive Trees (U) 6.45pm + A Taste Of Cherry (PG) 8.50pm

WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street 0181-568 1176 The Disappearance Of Finbar (15) 4.45pm Hamam: The Turkish Bath (NC) 6.45pm Les Miserables

BRIGHTON **DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-602503)** Dancing At Lugintasa (PG) 4.15pm. 9pm It's A Wonderful Life (U) 6.30pm

CUBE CINEMA (0114-907 4191) My Name Is Joe (15) 7pm Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas (18)

WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Henry Fool (18) 5.30pm, 8.15pm La Vie Revée Des Anges (18) 6pm Dancing At Lughnasa (PG) 8.25pm

ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444) Dancing Ar Lughnasa (PG) 1pm, 7.15pm Left Luggage (PG) 3pm, 9.15pm There's Something About Mary (15) 5pm

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-399666) Elizabeth (15) 8pm

IRISH FILM CENTRE (00 353 1-679 3477/5744) The Fountainhead (PG) 2.10pm, 6.30pm On Connaid La Chanson (PG) 3pm, 8.30pm Year Of The Horse (15) 4.20pm, 8.45pm Scream (18) 6.30pm

FILM THEATRE 01473-215544 Funny Games (18) 6pm Divorcing Jack (15) 6.15pm Character (Karakter) (15) 8.15pm | Want You (18) 8.30pm

CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) The Last Days Of Disco (15) 2.30pm, 8.15pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18) 5.45pm

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

CAMPRIDGE WARNER VILLAGE (01223-460442); 101 Dalmatians (U): Antz (PG): Babe: Pig In The City (U); Blade (18): Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas (18); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Mulan (U); The Negotiator (15); Out Of Sight (15); The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince Of Egypt (U); Ronin (15); Rush Hour 15); Small Soldlers (PG); There's Something About Mary (15)

ODEON (08705-050007); Babe: Pig in The City (U): Blade (18): Dr Dolittle (PG): Godzilla (PG): Lost In Space (PG): The Mask Of Zor-ro (PG): Muriel's Wedding (15): The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince Of Egypt (U): Rush Hour (15): Small Soldiers (PG): The Space (PG)

Soldiers (PG): Toy Story (PG) PICTURE HOUSE (01392-435522): The Eel (Unagi) (18): Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas (18): Hana-Bi (18): It's A Wonderful Life (U): Little Voice: Special Preview (NC): My Name is Joe (15): The Real Howard Spitz (PG)

GUILDFORD ODEON (08705-050007); Antz (PG): Babe: Pig in The City (U): Barney's Great Adventure (U): Blade (18); Dr Dolittle (PG); Lost blade (18); Dr Dolittle (PG): Lost In Space (PG); The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot (U); The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Mulan (U): The Ne-gotiator (15); Out Of Sight (15); The Parent Trap (PG); Paulie (U); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Ronin (15): Rush Hour (15); Small Sol-diers (PG); There's Something About Mary (15) About Mary (15)

LUTON ABC CINEMA (0870-9020422); Antz (PG): Babe: Pig In The City (U): Out Of Sight (15): The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince Of Egypt (U): Rush Hour (15)

LUTON CINEWORLD (01582-400705); Antz (PG); Babe: Pig In The City (U): Blade (18); Doll Sajake Rakhna (NC); Dr Dollttle (PG): The Express (25th Annive sary Rerelease) (18); Gharwali Bharwali (NC): Jhoole Bole Kauwa Kaate (NC): Kudrat (NC): Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Mulan (U): The Negotlator (15): Out Of Sight (15): The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince Of Egypt (U): Pyaar To Hona HI Tha (NC): Ronin (15): Rush Hour (15): The Santa Clause (U): Small Soldiers (PG): There's Something

MAIDSTONE ODEON LOCHMEADOW (08705-050007); 101 Dalmatlans (U); Antz (PG): Babe: Pig In The City (U); Blade (18); Ever After (PG); Fear And Loathing in Las Vegas (18); Home Alone 3 (PG); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); Roald Dahl's Matilda (PG); Mulan (U); The Negotiator (15); Out Of Sight (15); The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince Of Egypt (U); Rush Hour (15): Small Soldiers (PG)

THEATRE

Ticket availability details are for today; times and prices for the week; running times include intervals. — Seats at all prices I — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matiness — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat

b B22 AND ABOUT THE BOY Three triends and their respective problems are put under the microscope in Ed Hime's new drama. Preceded by a new short. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambas-sadors) West Street, WCZ (0171-565 5000) ⊕ Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.15pm, 10p-£10. double bill (7.15pm & 9pm performances on same night) £7.50-£15.

) ALARMS & EXCURSIONS Michael Frayn's new comedy about a dinner party which is interrupted by mysterious messages stars Felicity Kendal and Josie Lawrence. Gietgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) & Picc Girc, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £19.50-£27.50. 130 mins.

● AMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acclaimed drama based on the life of Mozart. Old Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 420 0000) BR/O Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 3pm, £7.50-£30. 180 mins.

DANNIE Rags to riches story of the optimistic orphan. Victoria Palace Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317) BR/& Victoria. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, [1] 4pm, £7.50-£32.50. 165 mins.

ART Larry Lamb, Jack Dee, Tim Healy in Yasmina Reza's comedy about art and friendship. Wyndham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 0171-867 1111) ← Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm, [4] 3pm, [7][1] 5pm, £9.50-£27.50. 90

DEFAUTY AND THE BEAST Lavish family musical based on Disney's cartoon version of the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, WI (0171-656 1888) ◆ Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, booking to June 26, £18.50-£35. 150 mins.

• THE BEST OF TIMES Revuestyle show featuring the songs of Jerry Herman. Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/O Charing X. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8,30pm, [4][7] 3,30pm, £9.50-£27.50.

BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musi-cal melodrama about tywins who are separated at birth. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) ◆ Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £11.50-£32.50. 165 mins.

 BOOGIE NIGHTS Shane Richie Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 0171-836 0479) & Char-ing X/Embankment, Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri-Sat 8.30pm, [6] 5.30pm, [7] 5pm, ends 9 Jan, £11-£28.50, 150

● BUDDY Musical biog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly.
Strand Aldwych, WCZ (0171-930
8800) ◆ Covent Garden/Charing X. Tue-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats [1] 4pm, £10-£27, half price Friday matinees.

DCATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Ediot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 0171-404 4079) & Covent Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£35, 165 mins.

CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Peter Davison star in this hit Broadway musical about two murderous women and their nightchub act. Adel-phi Malden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055) & Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4][7] 3pm, £16-£36 (inc booking fee), 130 mins.

DONDERELLA Angela Carter's version of this fairytale is staged by the acclaimed Improbable Theatre. Lyric Hammersmith King Street, W6 0 concs £6.50.

• THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company's keenly-paced theatrical history lesson. Criterion Piccadilly Circus. W1 (0171-369 1747) → Picc Circ. Tue 8pm. £6-£25, 120 mins.

• DR POLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals in this new stage adaptation featuring Jim Henson Puppets. London Apollo Ham-mersmith Queen Caroline Street, W6 (0171-416 6022) & Hammersmith.

Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50. 150 mins. • FAME THE MUSICAL High-octane stage version of the TV series charting the highs and lows of a class of young showbiz hopefuls. Prince of Wales Coventry Street. W1 (0171-839 5972) & Leic Sq/Picc Circ. Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sa

4pm & 8pm. ends 16 Jan. £15-£30. O FILUMENA Judi Dench and Michael Pennington star in Timber-lake Wertenbaker's new translation of Eduardo de Filippo's play. Pic-cadilly Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) & Picc Circ. In rep tonight 8pm, ends 27 Jan, £12-£18. 145 mins.

) FOUR AND DAUGHTERS Richard Wilson directs Christopher Shinn's debut work. Preceded by a shint Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq. Tue-fri 9pm, 10p-£10, double bill (7.15pm & 9pm performances on same night) £7.50-£15.

 GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film. Cambridge Earlham Street. WCZ (0171-494 5080) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm. £10-£30. 150 mlns.

 AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christo-■ AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christopher Cazenove and Susannah York in Peter Ball's acclaimed production of Wilde's comedy. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-494 5045) ⊕ Picc Ctrc. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, booking to 27 Feb. £8-£29,50. 165 mins.

■ AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen ■ AN INSETECTOR CALLS Stephen
Daldry's widely-acclaimed production of JB Priestley's thriller Garrick
Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494
5085) ♥ Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm,
Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 5pm,
£10.50-£25, 110 mins.

O INTO THE WOODS Southein BRACKNELL and Lapine's acclaimed musical based on fairytales. Donmar Ware-house Earlham Street. WC2 Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 2.30pm, booking to 13 Feb, £15-£27.50.

THE INVENTION OF LOVE Ton Stoppard's play about the life of po-et A E Houseman, author of The

Diana marriage. Comedy Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) & Picc Circ/Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm. [4][7] 3pm, ends 31 Jan, £6-£25.

) LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterniece. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue, WI (0171-434 0909) & Picc Crc. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, £7-£35. 195 mins.

494 5060) O Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4][7] 3pm, £5.75-£35.

→ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 2.45pm, [7] 5pm, £9-£23. 135 mirs. O THE PHANTOM OF THE

▶ REENT Musical inspired by La Boheme and set in modern day New York. Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (07,000-211221) ⊕ Holborn/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, E12.50-E32.50. 160

INTELION: Betrayal Pinter's

O COTTESLOE: Copenhagen New drama from Michael Frayn about the

O Holborn. Today 2.30pm & 7.30pm. ends 30 Jan. £7.50-£32.50. O STARLIGHT EXPRESS

Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical. Apollo Victoria Wilton Road, SW1 (0171-416 5070) BR/O Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£30. 150 mins. I THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE Re-

10171-494 5075/cc 0171-

York's) St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq/Charing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 3.30pm, £5-£25. 90 mins. • WEST SIDE STORY Brand new

Prince Edward Old Compton Street. W1 (0171-447 5400) & Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £15-£35, 160 mins. WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based

born. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm. £10-£32.50. 120 mins. A THE WOMAN IN RIACK Susan Hill's chilling ghost story. For-tune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 0171-344 4444) + Hol

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

BAC The King And I Steam Indus-try and BAC join forces for this Rodgers and Hammerstein classic. Tue-5at 7.30pm, Sun 5.30pm, ends 10 Jan. £12. concs £8. under 16s -£6. Lavender Hill, SW11 (0171-223) 2223) BR: Clapham Junction.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE Little

TRICYCLE THEATRE The Snon Przybszewka, Janet Suzman directs

COUNTRYWIDE

BASINGSTOKE

WILDE THEATRE Pinocchio Classic tale of the wooden puppet who dreams of becoming a real boy. Today 10am & 1.30pm, ends 3 Jan. £10. concs £8. South Hill Park (01344-484123)

Shropshire Lad. Theatre Royal,

Haymarket Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) ← Picc Circ. Tue-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 2.30pm. £10-£32.50.

O JESUS, MY BOY Tom Conti stars in John Dowie's alternative Christ-mas show. Apollo Shaftesbury Av-enue, W1 (0171-494 5070) ⊕ Picc Circ. Tue-Fri 8pm, Sat 5pm & 8pm. [1] 3pm & 5pm. £5.50-£18.50.

• LOVE UPON THE THRONE Tasteful look at the Charles and

• MRSS SAIGON Musical which re-sets the Madam Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-

◆ THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's whodumit. St March's West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443)

OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical. Her Majesty's Hay-market, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 0171-344 4444) & Picc Circ, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-£35.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE POLIVIER: Peter Pan Stephen Oliver's music accompanies the tale of the Boy Who Would Not Grow Up. with Michael Bryant as the Story-teller in rep. tonight 7.15pm, con-

defining work depicts a menage a trois and stars Imogen Stubbs and Douglas Hodge. In rep. tonight 7.30pm, continuing, 90 mins.

discovery of the atom. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 27 Jan. 145 mins. Olivier & Lyttelton: E8-E27.50. Cottesloe: £12-£19. Day seats from 10am. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000). BR/& Waterloo.

O SATURDAY ABOUT FEVER Hit 1970s musical featuring legendary songs by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Garcia. London Palladium Argyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) & Oxford Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50.

THE SNOWMAN Award. winning production of Raymond Briggs' contemporary classic. Sadler's Wells At The Peacock Por-tugal Street, WC2 (0171-863 8222)

linda Lang stars in Alan Ayekbourn's comedy. Duchess Catherine Street,

344 4444) → Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, ends 30 Jan, E15-£27.50, 140 mins.) THE WEIR Conor McPherson's drama is set in Ireland and examines. ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke Of

production of Bernstein's classic musical, attempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit. Street (01323-412000)

on the film of the same name. Aldwych Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc 0171-836 2428) & Hol-

born. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£23.50. 110 mins.

Malcolm and His Struggle Against The Eunuchs Ewan McGregor stars as the revolutionary activist in David Halliwell's drama. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 3.30pm, ends 2 Jan. £9-£16. concs £6. Avenue Road, NW3 (0171-722 9301) Swiss Cottage

Palace Pam Gems'sprovocatve dra-ma looks at the work of Stanislawa Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4.15pm, ends 19 Dec. E8-£13.50. Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000)

THEATRE

HAYMARKET THEATRE Conterbury Tales Join the Wile Of Bath and Chaucer's other characters. Tonight 7.45pm, today 1.30pm, ends 9 Jan, phone for prices. Wote Street (01256-465566)

First Call

FEATURING URINATING puppets, the Animation Theatre Series at the ICA presents Faulty Optic. This show has achieved worldwide fame for its adult puppetry, and employs macabre humour similar to Cirque du Soleil's Circus of Horrors. This disturbing stage world of marionettes is occupied by just two people who have for company half-heard screams and weird dreams. The ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (0171 930 3647) 11-13 Jan

MANSUN (right) are glamorous, sophisticated and well suited to adorning bedroom walls. In the wake of Britoop, they champion loud prog rock and are one of the few guitar bands who take risks. This was evident in their Number One debut album Six, and the daring concept led follow-up, Wide Open Space.
Mansur's exceptional and highly polished live shows
should see them reap huge rewards in 1999, whatever
style they choose to follow.

Chester Northgate (0115-912 9000) 18 Dec; Kings Lynns Corn Exchange (01553 764864) 23 Jan: Margate Winter Gardens (01843 296111) 24 Dec; Guildford Civic Hall (01483 444555) 26 Jan; Brighton Event (01273 709709) 27 Jan, Oxford Brookes University (0171-344 4444) 28 Jan



BRENTWOOD BRENTWOOD THEATRE Cinderella Traditional rags to riches panto. Today 10am & 1.30pm, ends 2 Jan. £4.50-£6.50. Shenfield Road (01277-200300)

BRIGHTON GARDNER ARTS CENTRE The Wind in The Willows Kenneth Grahame's enchanting tale of riverlife, Today 10.30am & 2.30pm ends 2 Jan. £6.96-£8.95, concs ava able. University of Sussex, Lewes Road (01273-685861)

BRISTOL.
NEW VIC STUDIO bond Depiction of two contrasting men, one shame-lessly lucky, the other always deeply unlucky. Tonight 7.30pm. £9, concs £6. King Street (0117-987 7877)

Burry St Edmunds THEATRE ROYAL Aladdin Wish INICATIVE ROYAL Aladdin Wishee Washee at al indulge in some Oriental antics for Christmas. Tonight 7pm, mat today 10am. £7-£8. Westgate Street (01284-769505)

CANTERBURY MARLOWE THEATRE Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs Ex-Blue Peter presenter Tim Vincent gets festive. Today 2.30pm & 7pm. £8-£15, concs available. The Friars (01227-787787)

CARDIFF SHERMAN THEATRE The Secret Seven Save The World New adventure, courtesy of Enid Blyton, and set in 1999. Today 1 Oam & 2pm, ends 9 Jan. £6-£10, concs available. Senghenydd Road (01222-230451)

CHIPPING NORTON CHIPPING NORTON THEATRE ALI Baba And The Forty Thieves Pan-to taken from the Arabian Nights. Today 2pm & 5pm, ends 16 Jan, £7.75-£14.75. Spring Street (01608-642350)

COLCHESTER
MERCURY THEATRE Cinderella Traditional family panto. Tonigh 7pm, mats 10am & 2pm, £7.75 £15.75 concs available Balkeme Gate (01206-573948) CRAWLEY THE HAWTH The Adventures Of Robin Hood Sarah Vandenburgh

Tonight 7.30pm, mat today 2.30pm, ends 3 Jan. £10.95-£11.95, concs available. Hawth Avenue (01293-553636) DARTEORD ORCHARD THEATRE Aladdin Glad iator Cobra stars in this panto spectacular, Tonight 7pm, mat to-day 2pm, ends 17 Jan. £7.50-£14.

Home Gardens (01322-220000) **EASTBOURNE** DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE CInderella Eastbourne's Christmas treat starring Hinge and Bracket and Wendy Craig. Tonight 7.30pm. £7-£11. concs available. Compton

YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Jack And The Beanstalk Rosemarie Ford, Tim Brooke-Taylor and Robert Donald into Troops Rannister: fonight ell join Trevor Ba 7pm, ends 3 Jan. £9.50-£17.50 concs available. Millbrook (01483-

WHITE ROCK THEATRE Perer Par Gladiator Jet co-stars with Neighbour Jesse Spencer. Today 1,30pm & 7pm, ends 3 Jan. £4.50-£8.50, concs available. White Rock (01424-

HIGH WYCOMBE WYCOMBE SWAN Jack And The Beanstalk Jean Boht, Michael Eiphick, Peter Duncan and Bonnie Langford star. Today 2pm & 7pm, ends 17 Jan. £8.50-£15.50. St. Mary's Street (01494-512000)

PLYMOUTH BARBICAN THEATRE Beauty And The Beastles Updated version of the classic tale. Tonight 7.30pm. £7.50. concs £4.50. Castle Street (01752-

SALISBURY SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE Aladdin Magic carpet ride to Peking and the land of Emperor Foo Wiff Pong. Today 2.15pm. £8-£12.50. concs available. Malthouse Lane (01722-320333)

ALBAN ARENA The Adventures Of Aladdin Nasty Nick Cotton from EastEnders is evil Abanazaar in this family panto, Today 2.30pm & 7pm. £7.50-£12.50. concs available. (01727-844488) STRATEORD-UPON-AVON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE The Winter's Tale Seasonal tale of obsessive jealousy. Tonight 7.30pm, ends Feb 26. £7-£30. Waterside

ST ALBANS

01789-2956231 WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA PALACE THEATRE CENTRE Peter Pan Make your way to Nevernever Land, Today 10am, £5.99-£12.99, concs available. London Road (01702-342564)

77

WINDSOR
THEATER ROYAL Puss in Boots
Genial weatherman lan McCaskill is
joined by panto veterans Rod Hull
and Emu. Today 2pm & 7.30pm.
ends 16 Jan. £6.50-£23, concs
available. Thames 5treet
(01753-853888)

EXHIBITIONS

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

REXHILL DE LA WARR PAVILION Picasso: Late Etchings Two series of etchings made in 1968 and 1969. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm, ends 3 Jan, free. (01424-787949)

RRIGHTON BRIGHTON MUSEUM & ART GALLERY Maquettes: Henry Moore Maquettes, working models and graphics exhibition marking the centenary of his birth. Mon. Tue Thur-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm 5pm, ends 10 Jan, free, Church Street (01273-290900)

ARNOLFINI Secret Victorians: Contemporary Art And A Nine-teenth Cenury Vision Artists in-cluding Mat Collishaw and Helen Chadwick respond to the Victorian era. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 31 Jan, free. Nar-row Quay (0117-929 9191)

FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM The Society Of Three: Whistler, Fantin-La ecy or inree: Whistier, Fancin-La-tour and Alphonse Legros Exhibition of drawing and prints ex-amining the common stylistic ground of the three artists. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm. Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 14 Feb. free. Trumpington Street (01223-332900)

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES

Kalighat Icons Watercolours chart-ing the last days of the British occu-

CAMBRIDGE

pation of India, Tue-Sun 10am-5pm, ends 3 Jan. E4.25, concs E2.50, family £9.75 (to museum). Cathays Park COURTAULD GALLERY, COURTAULD INSTITUTE Material Evidence: Drawings From The Courtauld Collection Including work by Constable, Rubens and Van Gogh. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun & Bank Hols 12noon-6pm (last adm,

5.15pm), ends 24 Jan. £4. concs £2. free 10am-2pm Mon (to gallery). Somerset House, Strand, WC2 (0171-873 2526) ⊕ Embankment. NATIONAL GALLERY Luca Sigings and paintings by the artist. Mon & Tue, Thur-Sat 10am-6pm, Wed 10am-8pm. Sun 12noon-6pm, ends

31 Jan, free, Trafalgar Square, WC2 (0171-747 2885) & Charing Cross. ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Picasso: Painter And Sculptor In Clay Ceramic works by the 20th century artist. Mon-Thur, Sat & Sun 10am-6pm. Fri 10am-8.30pm. ends 16 Dec. E7. OAP/UB40 E6, NUS E5. child 12-18 £2.50, child 8-11 £1. Life? Or Theatre?: The Work Of Charlotte Salomon Powerful paint-ings made between 1940 and 1942. Mon-Thur, Sat & Sun 10am-5pm, Fri 10am-8.30pm, ends 17 Jan. £5.50, UB40/OAP £4.50, NUS £4, child 12-18 £2.50, child 8-11 £1.

100 Masterpieces Of Imperial Chinese Ceramics From The Au Bak Ling Collection Porcelain from the Sing, Yuan, Ming and Quing dynas-ties. Mon-Thur, Sat & Sun 10am-6pm, Fri 10am-6pm, ends 20 Dec. £3, concs £2.50, child (8-18) £1. (0171-300 8000) Green Park.

BALLROOM, ROYAL FESTIVAL

HALL Duane Hanson Life-like mod-els of people displayed in the public spaces. Mon-Sun 10am-11pm, ends

TATE GALLERY John Singer Sar-gent Comprehensive exhibition de-voted to the paintings of the 19th century artist. Mon-Sun 10am-5.40pm, ends 17 Jan. £6, concs £4. Turner Prize 1998 Work by Chris Ofili, Cathy De Monchaux, Tacita Dean and Som Taylor-Wood, Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends 10 Jan, £1.50 In Celebration: The Art Of The Country House Including work by Canaletto, Stubbs and Holbein, Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends 28 Feb, free. Millbank, SW1 (0171-887

8000) O Pimlico. VICTORIA & ALBERT_MUSEUM Aubrey Beardsley The illustrator's life and work explored in 200 drawings and prints. Mon 1 2 noon 5.45pm. Tue-Sun 10am-5.45pm, ends 10 Jan. ES, concs £3, under 18/ ES40s/disabled/mems/4.30pm-abled/mems 4.30pm-5.45pm, free (to 0171-938 8441) + South

MAIDSTONE MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY The Disparates: Goya Late satirical etchings by the Span-ish master. Mon-Sat 10am-5, 15pm. Sun 11am-4pm, ends 3 Jan, free St. Faith's Street (01622-754497)

ST. IVES TATE GALLERY English Roots: Eric Cameron Layers of paint surrounding organic objects, Mon-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 11 Apr. £3.50, concs £2. Quoit Montserrat: Veronica Ryan Marble sculpture linking St Ives with Montserrat in the West Indies

CLASSICAL

LONDON

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL Joanna MacGregor Music for prepared pi-ano by Cage and others. Tonight 7.45pm. £8-£18. South Bank Cen-tre, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/& Wa-

ROYAL ALBERT HALL Jose Carreras With the Orchestra of the Boyal Opera House in a solo concert. Tonight 7pm. £15-£80. Kensington Gore. SW7 (0171-589 8212) & High Street Kensington.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY Classic FM Charitable Trust Christmas Concert Britien's Ceremony of Carols and other seasonal favourites. Tonight 7pm, £5-£15 from 0870 840 1111, Deans Yard, SW1 (0171-222 5152) O Westminster

OPERA

SADLER'S WELLS The Bartered Bride Smetana's classic opera in a new Royal Opera staging directed by Francesca Zambello. Tonight 7pm. E10-E60. Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (0171-863 8000) & Angel.

DANCE

CHICHESTER CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE Russian National Ballet: Triple Bill Performances of Tchaikovsky's best-loved masterpieces The Nutcracker, Sleeping Beauty and Swan Lake, danced by Russia's brightest and most gifted performers. Tonight, Swan Lake 7.30pm, phone for prices. Oaklands Park (01243-781312)

National Ballet: The Nutcracker Derek Deane's new staging of favourite with Tchaikovsky's fa-miliar score. Tonight 7.30pm (Oaks/Edur/Kilmentova). £2.50-£39.50. St. Martin's Lane. WC2 (0171-632 8300) Leicester Square/Charing Cross. ROUNDHOUSE Stomp Eight

performers use anything they can get

rhythmic symphony. Tue-Sat 8pm. mats Sat & Sun 4pm. ends 27 Dec.

£10-£25. Chalk Farm Road.

their hands on to create a witty

LONDON COLISEUM English

LONDON

NW1 (0171-420 0000) O Chalk

LITERATURE LONDON BOOKBINDING 1998 Examples from the 1998 Bookbinding Comp tition on display, plus short-listed novels for the 1998 Booker Prize for Fiction. British Library Foyer Euston Square NW1 (0171-412 7760) ◆ Euston/Kings Cross. Mon. Wed-Fri 9.30am-6pm, Tue 9.30am-8pm.

Sat 9.30am-5pm, Sun 11am-5pm, CLAIRE TOMALIN The biographer talks about her many books, which include The Life and Death of Mary Wollstonecraft, Shelley and His World and most recently Jane usten: A Life. Chiswick Library Duke's Avenue W4 (0181-994 1008) Turnham Green, Tonight 7.30pm, £3.50, concs £2.50.

COMEDY

THE FEZ COMEDY CLUB AT CADIL-LACS Jerry Sadowitz and Logan Murray get rude and savage with their show Bib & Bob. Tonight 8pm. Walcot Street (01225-464241) £10. RRIGHTON

JULIAN BARRATT & NOEL FIELDING - THE MIGHTY BOOSH

AT KOMEDIA The stars of Channel

4's Gas in Perrier Best Newcon

oward winning show. Tonight 8.30pm, Gardner Street (01273-277772) £7.50, concs £6. LONDON THE COMEDY STORE The Cutting Edge with Steve Gribbin, Paul Thorne, Scan Meo. Martin Coyote. Lee Hurst, Boothby Graffoe, Tonight 8pm, Oxendon Street, SW1

CLUBS

D Piccadilly Circus, £11. concs £7

(01426-914433/cc 0171-344

BABE AT THE TUBE House with with Oliver M and Simon Guy, Tonight 10pm-3am, E1. Falconberg Court, W1 (0171-287 3726) & lottenham Court Road.

SOUL GUN ASSASIN AT THE CROSS BAR Tony Sexton of Mile-Ahoud magazine heads for the soul Wand-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-Spm, ends 11 Apr. £3.50, concs £2. Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226) Hong's Green's Concest Control of the Control vaults. Tonight 7pm 12midnight.

EVENTS

LONDON

A CHRISTMAS MIRACLE WITH THE LONDON DOCKLANDS SINGERS Collection of carols, read-ings and festive music in aid of the Cancer Research Campaign. Cabox Hall Canary Wharf E14 (0171-418 2783) DLR: Canary Wharf. Tonight

7.30pm. £4, concs £3. CHRISTMAS BRASS RUBBING Work on beautiful nativity scenes and create your own Christmas cards.
The London Brass Rubbing Centre St Martin in the Fields Church WC2 (0171-9309306) & Trafalgar Square. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 24 Dec, £1.50 (includes all materials).

OXFORD INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL With tournaments for masters and grand masters and the Oxford International Open The Moat House Hotel Wolvercote Roundabout (01865-489 988) Ends 23 Dec. phone for details.

MUSIC POP

BOURNEMOUTH UB40 Midlands reggae-pop MOS (7) stars tour the new album, Labour Of Love III. Bournemouth Interna-tional Centre Exeter Road (01202-

from the family quartet play a live concert, showcasing their chart-busting melodies. Brighton Centre Kings Road (0870-900 9100) Tonight 7.30pm, £16. MASSIVE ATTACK The revered Bristol dubsters take their sounds on the round. Anson Rooms, Bristol

THE CORRS Roots-tinged MOR

BRIGHTON

7pm, £21,50.

University Queens Road (0117-954) 5800) Tonight 8pm. £16. **CARDIFF** M PEOPLE, LYNDEN DAVID HALL Pop-soul outfit showcase their greast-Heather Small, Cardiff International Arena Mary Ann Street, Butetown (01222-224488) Tonight

MARC ALMOND Short second London residency for the former Soft Cell torch singer. Albery Theatre St Martin's Lane WC2 (0171-369 1732) \varTheta Leicester Square. Tonight 8

al. The Stables Stockwell Lane, Wavendon (01908-583928) Tonight

BAD MANNERS Ska knees-up with Buster Binodvessel and the hoys. Alleycat Live Gun Street (0118-956) Tonight 8pm, phone for

MUSIC

JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

8pm, £12.

READING

GEORGIE FAME Swinging R&B vo-calist, as featured with Van Morrison. Jazz Cafe Parkway NW1 (0171-916 60601 & Camden Town. Tonight 8 30pm, £15, £12.50 advance.

mainstreamers mainstream. Pizza Express Jazz Club Dean Street W1 (0171-439 8722) & Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 9pm, £8.50. GEORGE MELLY & JOHN
CHILTON'S FEETWARMERS Veteran vocalist in louche jazz panto.
Ronnie Scort's Frith Street W1
(0171-439 0747) & Leicester
Square. Tonight 9.30pm. phone for
details.

PIZZA EXPRESS ALL STARS The

MAIDSTONE RAY GELATO GIANTS Polished Ve-gas R&B and jump-jive outfit. Pizza Express Earl Street (01622-683548) Jonight 8 15pm, £10.

NICK WELDON TRIO Elegant modern jazz pianist. O.X. One New Road (01865-250099) Tonight 8pm.

WATFORD

MARK, SPARK AND SMITH Rioutous and witty horn team. Piz-za Express. Watford High Street (01923-213991) Tonight 8pm, free

هكذا من الاجل

12.35 > 27 £7.50-£27.50. . • TAS**3**•; BOOMHAUER, LEONARD. WEST-And And **4**(1)1455; ERNISED Intelligent hardcore types fend off strong support from tipped new quartet Leonard. Dublin Castle 2.3 EX CENEMY **(0)** Parkway NW1 (0171-378 6095) 6.00 - -O Carnden Town. Tonight 8.30p £4. concs £3.50. :: 134E. ×5% 9.30 --रे**व** 👑 : Famile MANIC STREET PREACHERS, CATATONIA The passionate Welsh-men bash out their new album This Section 12 :0.00 ಾಕ ಗೌರಸಿ **ಜಿ** Is My Truth, Tell Me Yours. We AND THE STREET - 0550; **1.2**8 ley Arena Empire Way, Wembley (0181-902 0902) & Wembley Park. 335-53 RUFOUR Tonight 7pm, £17,50, 6.45 . . MILTON KEYNES MIDGE URE The former Ultravor singer and co-writer of "Do They Know It's Christmas" returns to the 2.50 Army live scene with old and new materi-10.20

8.00 10 48 Barry 5.30-6.0 CHANNE: (a) Care 3-40772 -- 5.00 Con -3a.2

A TARREST CO. 6.30 - 6:00 TALES 130 6.30 Ly 130 Same and * E. 900 --- 1/2 9.00 10.00 10.00 10.00 Marine of the Second Se Bases and the second se

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SDAY REVIEW #

TUESDAY RADIO

RADIO 1 (97.6-99.8MHz FM) 6.30 Zoe Ball. 9.00 Simon Mayo's Office Party. 12.00 Kevin Greening. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45 Newsbeat, 6.00 Dave Pearce, 8.00 Steve Lamacq - the Evening Session. 10.00 Digital Update. 10.10 John Peel. 12.00 The Breezeblock. 2.00 Emma B. 4.00 -

6.30 Scott Mills. RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed Richard Allinson. 12.00 Katrina

Stewart. 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 Evelyn Glennie's Classics. 8.00 Nigel Ogden. 9.00 Sir John Mills. See Pick of the Day. 10.00 Cole Porter: Night and Day. 10.30 Leskanich, 3.80 - 4.00 Mo Dut-RADIO 3 (90.2-92.4MHz FM) 6.00 On Air.

10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert (R) 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Voices. 4.45 Music Machine.

9.00 Masterworks.

5.00 In Tune. 7.30 Performance on 3. Chris de Souza introduces a concert given last Friday at the CBSO Centre. Birmingham, Rosemary Hardy (scprano), Peter Hill and Benjamin Frith (pianos). Delbos: Primavere. Ravel: Histoires naturelles. Emmanuel: Chansons bourguignonnes (excerpts). Messiaen:

Chants de terre et de ciel; Visions de l'amen. 9.35 Postscript. Kevin Jackson unravels the stories behind classic works of European literature. 2: Luis Vaz de Camoes: 'The Lusads'. First published in 1572, 'The Lusiads' recounts Vasco de Gama's pioneering voyage to India and is widely regarded as the greatest epic poem of the Renaissance. In Victorian Britain. camoes was much admired for ne imperial theme of his verse

PICK OF THE DAY

generous donor to many African troops to keep him in power. countries in recent years, but its bounty hasn't been universally welcomed. In fact, the French have been accused of helping some of Africa's less pleasant regimes in order to maintain

and the romantic adventures of

his own life, but our century has

of empire. Kevin Jackson exam-

ines changing interpretations of

Portuguese culture.

10.00 BBC Scottish Symphony

Evening. Panufnik: Symphony No 3 (Sinfonia sacra).

10.45 Night Waves. Turgenev's

classic A Month in the Country

anticipated Chekhov in its lyrical

Richard Coles reports on tonight's

opening at the RSC of a new ver-

sion in English by acclaimed Irish

playwright Brian Friel. And Bill Bu-

12.00 Composer of the Week: El-

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

ford of the 'New Yorker' delivers

his regular letter on cultural life

across the Atlantic.

11.30 Jazz Notes.

(92.4-94.6MHz FM)

6.00 Today. 9.00 NEWS; The Choice.

10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

12.00 NEWS; You and Yours.

11.00 NEWS; Nature: Life on the

9.30 Diaries of Today.

Brandberg. 11.30 Wonderland Girls.

1.00 The World at One.

2.00 NEWS; The Archers.

2.15 Afternoon Play: Gurney.

1.30 Full Orchestra.

12.57 Weather.

9.45 Serial: Dear Bill

liott Carter. (R)

RADIO 4

exploration of love and ennui.

Orchestra. Conductor Nicolae

Moldoveanu. Kodaly: Summer

the epic and its powerful place in

been more supicious of the poetry

THE AMBIGUOUS relationship influence. In the first of two France has with its former programmes Ofeibea Quist-African colonies is examined in Arcton takes the case of Gabon, A Mission to Civilise? (8pm a tiny mineral-rich state whose R4). France has been a very president relies on French

After that, there's a profile of the model of the decent Englishman, Sir John Mills (9pm R2), as he approaches his 90th birthday.

4.30 Shop Talk.

6.00 Six o'Clock News.

7.00 NEWS; The Archers.

chairs the arts programme.

7.45 Under One Roof, With

Martha Kearney and guests. Dra-

ma: 'Under One Root' by Jenny

Landreth, based on the original

stories by Michele Hanson. As

Christmas approaches, shopping,

cooking and clubbing reach fran-tic proportions for Gillian, her

daughter Chioe and her mother

Bernice. Nativity is in the air even

for Molly the dog. With Janet Maw and Edna Dore. Director Marilyn

programmes, Ofeibea Quist-Arc-

ton explores the secretive ties that

bind France to her former colonies

8.00 NEWS; A Mission to

Civilise? In the first of two

in Africa. 1: 'Gabon - the Oil

Rigged State.' For the past 30

years, Gabon has been ruled by

Omar Bongo, Known as 'Africa's

Kuwait', this tiny country has huge

mineral resources, yet the majority

of the population lives in poverty.

8.40 In Touch. Peter White with

news for visually impaired people.

clinical trials to the medicine cabi-

9.00 NEWS; Case Notes. From

See Pick of the Day.

7.15 From Row, Mark Lawson

6.30 4 at the Store.

5.57 Weather.

Imrie. Part 2.

5.00 PM.

ROBERT HANKS



3.00 NEWS; The Exchange: 0171 net, Graham Easton investigates some of our most commonly used 3.30 Stafford on Humour. 3.45 With Great Pleasure. 9.30 The Choice. Michael Buerk 4.00 NEWS; A Good Read.

talks to individuals who have made life-changing choices, taking them through the whole process, from the initial dilemma to living with the consequences. 10.00 The World Tonight. With Justin Webb. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Spider-

web. By Penelope Lively, read by Stephanie Cole (7, 10). 11.00 The Now Show. Steve Punt and Hugh Dennis host the sketch and stand-up show with the reqular team of Simon Munnery, Jane Bussmann, David Quantick, Nick Romero and Dan Freedman. 11.30 Talking Pictures. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: Aphrodite.

12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

RADIO 4 LW (198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament. 12.30 - 7.30 Test Match Special

RADIO 5 LIVE (693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Nicky Campbell

1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 The Tuesday Match. Russell Fuller introduces coverage of all the night's football action, with commentary, reports and goal

12.00 The Midday News.

10.00 Late Night Live. The day's big stories with Nick Robinson, Including 10.30 a full sports roundup. 11.00 News and finance. And between 11.30 and 1.00 a sharp and spirited late-night topical dis-

1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM

(100.0-101.9MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Con certo. 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight, 7.00 Smooth Classics

at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert: Sainton: The Island. Philharmonia/Matthias Barnert, Korngold: Mariettas Lied. Barbara Hendricks (soprano), Philadelphia/Franz Welser-Most, Korngold: Symphon ic Serenade. EBC PO/Matthias Bamert. Harty: Variations on a Dublin Air. Ulster Orchestra/Bryden Thomson, Respiahi: Church Windows, Cincinnati SO/Jesus Lopez-Cobos. 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Russ Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Bobby Hain FM only Harriet Scott from 6.45. 7.30 Harriet Scott. 10.00 Mark Forrest, 1.00 James Merritt. 4.30 - 6.30 Jeremy Clark.

WORLD SERVICE RADIO (198kH2 LW) 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Discovery. 2.00 Newsday. 2.30 Meridian (Live). 3.00 World News. 3.05 World Business Report. 3.15

Sports Roundup. 3.30 One Planet. 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today. TALK RADIO 6.00 The Breakfast Show. 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 12.00 Lorraine

Kelly. 2.00 Anna Raeburn. 4.00 Peter Deeley. 5.00 The Sports Zone. 8.00 James Whale. 12.00

6.00 Trny Living (9629047). 9.00 The Roseanne Show (4422573). 9.50 The Jerry

Springer Show (5267776). 10.40 Michael

Cole (3478134). **11.30** Brookside (1305486). **12.00** Special Babies (3466467). **12.30**

Rescue 911 (1946026). 1.00 Beyond Belief:

Fact or Fiction (1747931). 1.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (7877370). 2.05 Rolonda

(4254738). 2.55 Living It Up! (4985950).

3.55 The Jerry Springer Show (9953405).

Cook, Wornt Cook (8274370), 640 The Jer

ry Springer Show (6901467). 7.00 Rescue

911 (768855-9, 7.30 Beyond Belief: Fact or

(9007080). 9.00 Film: Lightning in a Bot-

tle (1994) (9017467). **11.00** The Spicy Sex

9.00 Never So Few (1959) (65442486).

11.00 Shaft (1971) (51493486). 1.00 Demon

The Critic (73697), 2.00 Dr Katz (25177).

Fiction (1257370). 8.00 Ally McBeal

TNT

esti (7997931). **5.35** Can'i

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS

THE BUNDESLIGA met last weekend, at several venues in Germany. Along with Porz from Hamburg, my club, Solingen, is one of the two giants of the league, with a team which I just squeeze into on the seventh of the eight boards when we're at absolute full strength. We duly defeated Neukolin, who are of medium strength, on Saturday Dresden were expected to provide stiffer opposition on Sunday. But in the event, they were without both of their top two boards - Alexei Shirov and Zoltan Almasi: and so, as we should, we also beat them - to remain with a perfect score after six matches.

Both Michael Adams and I scored 1/2. But while I had two draws, the first albeit after some suffering, Micky has a more up-anddown or rather down-and-up weekend getting ground down in an endgame with rooks and oppositecoloured bishops by Sergei Movesian on Saturday but bouncing back to win with the same material against Victor Bologan on Sunday.

Michael was alerted to the unusual 9 d5 by Mark Hebden's win (reached by a different move order and with the h pawn on h2) against Luke McShane at the Kilkenny Open a fortnight ago. With 13 Bb5 and 14 Bxd7! White caught up in development. The d5 pawn then facilitated a powerful kingside attack though in the long term it could have become weak.

Understandably, Bologan didn't 21 g4 Bd3

like 18... f6 19 Ne6 Bxe6 20 dxe6 though it isn't entirely clear. 19 Re3 was better, it wouldn't have been hit later by ... Bd3, 19 g4 Bc8 20 Re3 was also interesting, hoping for b5 (20... Bxg5 21 Bxg5 f6 22 Bf4 Od7 is better) 21 Rael (threatening 22 Qxf6!) Qd7 22 Rxe7! Rxe7 23 Qxf6 Rxe1+ 24 Kg2 Qxd5+ 25 Nf3! winning.

23... Qxd5! was tougher, though 24 Qf4! retains the advantage. In the ending White has too much pressure but Bologan did go down rather fast - 36... h5? made it easy.

White: Michael Adams Black: Victor Bologan Bundesliga 1998 Modern Defence

1 e4 g6	22 Ke3 Bxg5
2 d4 Bg7	23 Bxg5 f6?
3 Nc3 c6	24 Bh6 Kf7
4 Nf3 d5	25 Re5 Kg8
5 h3 Nf6	26 Re6 Qxd5
6 e5 Ne4	27 Qxd5 Rxd
7 Nxe4 dxe4	28 Rxe7 Rxe
8 Ng5 c5	29 Rxe7 Ra5
9 d5 Bxe5	30 Rg7+ Kf8
10 Nxe4 Nd7	31 Rxg6+ K
11 c3 0-0	32 Rg7+ Ke
12 Bh6 Re8	33 Rxb7 Rxa
13 Bb5 a6	34 Rb6+ Kf7
14 Bxd7 Bxd7	35 Be3 Ra5
15 0-0 Qc7	36 Kh2 h5?
16 Re1 Rad8	37 Bd4 f5
17 Qf3 Bf5	38 g5 Rb5
18 Ng5 Bf6	39 g6+ Kg8
19 Re2?! c4	40 Rxa6 Rb8
20 Rae1 Qd7	41 Kg3 1-0
25 4 D 12	- 3

CREATIVITY

plained last week that she is relinquishing the reins of the Creativity dog-sleigh, and the job of crying "Mush!" to you creative huskies

out there to get you writing in with your weird and wonderful ideas has passed to me. Loki, the Norse god of mischief-making, seems an appropriate mantle to wear, to stimulate heretical and imaginative thinking. Loki, not "low-key"... With what would readers replace the House of Lords? "Don't!

Scrap it entirely. Let the tumbrils roll!" says O Cromwell. Tiller Girls, moonlighting as roof-repairers, would make great leggy slaters, Rod Black suggests. Fairies, sipping Peer-rier Water, says I O'Lanthe. Paul Turner would amaigamate the two Houses, making the green one red, turning every commoner into a peer. A radio phonein with 0891 "yea" and "nay" votes. (lan Campbell-Donaldson), A random selection of citizens, chosen by computer. (FE Card). 18-25-yearolds doing two years' National Service. (Pat Gould)

Jack Doherty prefers MPs' partners (to save expenses) but Duncan Bull envisages a creche for their children. John Donegan has tabled an amendment; for their illegitimate children. This would scrap the hereditary principle for good and allow the illegitimate to pass laws, and the House would be full of Alan B'stards.

Let's choose their successors/ from sassy cross-dressers, versifies Maguy Higgs. Mary Flavin sees comedians in ermine, considering play bills and double acts, re-

No.3794 Tuesday 15 Decembe

MS MACKESY regrets. Serena ex- placing the Woolsack with a whoopee cushion.

A House of Lourdes, says Nicholas E Gough, expecting miracles. Martin Brown agrees: pilgrims could buy weeping effigies of Baroness Thatcher in the gift shop. A House of Piers, whose achievements stick out a mile, says Michael Gifford, complete with a What RA Butler Saw peepshow.

"MPs are a pretty dull lot," Bruce Birchall declares. "No great minds to be found there." What we need, he concludes, is a House of Un-Commons, full of bright, agile brains, to bring some clarity to public life. Where are they to be found? Why, in the Creativity column on Tuesday, Bill Palmer says, and Fiona and John agree.

Pat Gould, Mary Flavin and FE Card each win a Chambers Dictionary of Quotations.

From alternative Upper Chambers to alternative Christmas messages to the traditional Queen's Speech. Brigitte Bardot did one. Now Channel 4 is asking Stephen Lawrence's parents to do one. To whom would you give air time, and what would they say? Ebenezer Scrooge with a sermon on humbug, perhaps? Or Birmingham City Council on why they want to rename the occasion "Winterval"?

Ideas to: Creativity, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, by 23 December. Copies of Chambers Dictionary of Quotations to the three we like best. Results in two weeks' time. Next week: improbable story lines whereby Tiffany quits EastEnders.

SATELLITE AND CABLE

SKY PREMIER

. 72

6.00 Stolen Women (1996) (25844). 8.00 The incredible Journey (1963) (60689). 10.00 About Sarah (1998) (39134). 12.00 Stolen Women (1996) (43912). 2.00 A Christmas Carol (1984) (78047). 4.00 The Incredible Journey (1963) (1991). 6.00

About Sarah (1998) (58283). 8.00 The Syring Star (1998) (58283). 8.00 The Syring Star (1998) (58283). 11.50 Feast of July (1995) (198009). 1.50 Summer of Emmarch 2000 (1998). My Pretty One Sleeps (1997) (22579158).

SKY MOVIEMAX 6.00 They Won't Believe Me (1947) (79243641), 7.45 Here Comes the Son (1996) (10700554), **9.30** Take Your Best Shot (1982) (65130776), **11.15** They Worlt Believe Me (1947) (14568776). 1.00 Cinema Paradiso (1988) (53399). 3.00 Here Cornes the Son (1996) (86979), 5.00 Take Your Best Shot (1962) (84196), 7.00 Born Free: a New Adventure (1996) (91047), 9,00 A Very

New Advanture (1896) (19047), 9,000 A Very Brarly Sequel (1996) (39660), 10,30 Movi-20,73080), 11,00 Flashpoint (1997) (93,0660), 12,35 Scream (1997) (578581), 2,30 The Machine (1993) (333852), 4,05 6.10 Cinema Paradiso (1988) (75280239).

SKY CRIEMA 4.00 Gentleman's Agreement (1947) (7609047). 6.00 His Kind of Women (1951) (9015009). 8.00 The Dark Past (1948) (2413080). 9.30 Hollywood Hall of Fame 1951950). See Pick of the Day. 10.00 Spelltound (1945) (4950467). See Pick of the Day. 11.55 Chel (1969) (2440660). 1.35 Lighthorsemen (1998) (9147087). 3.35-5.30 Citizen Kane (1941) (8227500).

FILMFOUR 6.00 Short Attention Span Cmema (5214318), 6.45 A K (2152202), 8.00 Ran (1985) (70525221). 10.40 Barry Unidon (1975) (81437738). 1.40 Buffet in) Head (1990) (82199784). 3.50 Army a Shadows (1969) (7643158). 5.30-6.0 Gunbuster (3488326).

DISCOVERY CHANNEL 4.00 Rex Hunt's Fishing World (8044370). 4.30 Walker's World (8040554), 5.00 Con-nections 2 by James Burke (2400863). 5.30 Jurassica (8064134). 6.00 Animal Doctor (8061047). 6.30 Ice Age Survivors (2514660): **7.30** Seyond 2000 (8041283). **8.00** Classic Trucks (2406047). **8.30** Fightine (2485554). **9.00** Extreme Machines (5764202). **10.00** Super Structures (5774689). **1L00** Firepower 2000 (7561775). 12.00 Empire of the East (1425603). 1.00 Connections 2 by James Burke (9857993). 1.30-2.00 Ancient Warriors (9203887).

PICK OF THE DAY

HOLLYWOOD SCREENWRITER the head of a mental institute his best in roles that match these qualities." One thinks of his Oscar-winning performance in To Kill a Mocking Bird, or in Hitchcock's Spellbound (10pm Sky Cinema) which is showing tonight after Hollywood Hall of Fame (9.30pm), a profile of his career. Spellbound has Peck as

7.00 The Simpsons (86115), 7.30 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show (59806), 8.30 Holy-

wood Squares (52937). 9.00 Guity! (52221). 10.00 Selly Jessy Raphael (94134).

11.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (74370). 12.00 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show

(53841660). **1.00** Days of Our Lives

(8737825). 12.55 The Special K Collection

(9818134). 1-55 The Special K Collection

(77160047). **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (6637641). **2.55** The Special K Collection

3.55 The Special K Collection (8174844). 4.00 Guiltyl (54979). 5.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (4047). 6.00 Married with Chil-

(2643196), 3.00 Jenny Jones (7511318).

dren (9080). 6.30 Dream Team (3660).

7.00 The Simpsons (5776): 7.30 Real TV (9844), 8.00 Speed (ff96), 8.30 Speed

(3931), 9.00 Surviving the Moment of Impact 3 (53738), 10.00 Police Stopl 5

(56825). **11.00** Dream Team (15080). **11.30** Star Trek: DSN (75863). **12.30** Renegade

(6443). 1.30 - 7.00 Long Play (4608055).

7.00 Sports Centre (8310863). 735 V-Max

News (22844), 9.00 Aerobics (23196) 9.30 Football Review (46829, 10.30 Table Tennis (6964), 11.30 V-Max (71660), 12.30 Ford Aerobics - Cz Style (36660), 12.30 Ford Football (25134), 2.30 Spanish Football

(98405). 4.30 Fastrax (5047). 5.00 World

Wrestling (9689), 6.00 Sports Centre (6912), 6.30 Scottish Football (90202)

(301467), 7.45 H2O (300738), 8.15 Sky

Sports Centre (8561554). 8.30 Racing

SKY SPORTS 1

Casey Robinson once described who is suffering from amnesia. Gregory Peck (right) as "Solid, Ingrid Bergman plays the kindly, dignified, likable and luminous new psychiatrist who somewhat self-effacing; he is at helps him to recover his

Richard Attenborough's biopic inevitably simplified the life of Mahatma Gandhi. More detail about the life and work of this great peace campaigner is provided by tonight's Biography (9pm History Channel).

Federation: in Your House (50090660).

11.15 Sports Centre (525486). 11.30 Foot-

2.00 Sports Centre (124)622), 2:15 Close

JAMES RAMPTON



7.30 Fastrax (6776). 8.00 World Wrestling 7.30 Swimming (58950), 9.00 Biathlon (94221), 10.00 Biathlon (36134), 11.00 ballers' Football Show (95641). **12.30** Inside Football (99210). **1.30** Fastrax (75055).

7.30 Sports Centre (5884660), 7.45 Racing News (8045316), 8.45 World Windsurfing (6256573), 8.45 Sports Centre (6579950), 9.00 Fish TV (2439196), 9.30 Fish TV (3501028). **10.00** V-Max (4759486) 10.30 World Windsurfing (2428080). 11.00 Cricket Australia vs. England (7405009). 2.00 Showjumping (475015). 3.00 World Motor Sport (8763486). 6.00 Sports Unlimited (3513863). 7.00 Cricket Australia vs. England (1082641). **10.00** Showjumping (6949950). **11.00** Fastrax (8845283). **11.30** Sports Unlimited (9051738). 12.30 Showjumping - Spruce Meedows Horse Di-aries (8625158). 1.30 FA Cup Special (1449332). 3.00 Sky Sports Centre

(83967608), 3.45 Close. SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 World Wrestling Federation Live Wire (48105883). 1.00 Fish TV - Tony Dean Outdoors (94370196). 1.30 Fish TV (48192399), 2.00 Motor Racing (67835399), 2.30 Dickle Davies's Sporting Heroes (67302047), 3.30 Pool (28130554), 6.30 Fish TV (93958028). **7.00** Fish TV Fishing Tales (67839115). **7.30** FA Cup Special (79184115), **10.00** Superbouts Ali vs Norton (65424080). **11.00** Olympic Series Olympic Destines (47550221). **11.30** Close.

Football (74573). 12.30 Marethon (65825) 1.30 Ski Jumping (92221), 3.00 Biathlon (33824), 4.30 Football: Eurogoals (68318). 6.00 Supercross (72950). 7.00 Stronges Man (15592), 8.00 Boxing (20888), 10.00 Football European Championship Legends (14863) 11.00 Raily (37863) 12.00 Car on ice (42535). 12.30 Close.

7.00 Crossroads (7761973), 7.30 Neighbours (4597757), 7.55 EastEnders (4904134), **8.30** The Bill (8210554), **9.00** The Bill (8234134), **9.30** The House of Eliott (9309028), 10.30 Angels (8230318), 11.00 Dallas (3644028). **11.55** Neighbours (32093979). **12.25** EastEnders (3427028) 1.00 Julet Bravo (7583283), 2.00 Dallas (6757467), 2.55 The Bill (219318), 3.25 The Bill (6326318). 3.55 EastEnders (6136414). 4.30 Angels (8042912), 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small (2498028), 6.00 Due South (7503047). 7.00 The Cornedy Alternative: May to December (2907047). 7.40 The Comedy Alternative: It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (7726739). 8-20 The Comedy Alternative: Dad's Army (7490202), 9.00 Red Dwarf IV (5190486), 9.40 This Life (5167405), 10.30 NYPD Blue (7314370). 11.30 The Bill (5789860). 12.00 The Bill (7023245), 12-30 Spender (7391429), 1-30 Backup (3881516). 2.25 Live at Jongleurs

Seed (1977) (16247968), 2.45 Never So Few (1959) (81466697), 5,00 Close. PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL 7.00 Clueless (1660), 7.30 Desmondis (4318), 8.00 Roseanne (7080), 8.30 Just Shoot Me (6115). 9.00 Cybil (65009). 9.30 Seinfeld (57641), 10.00 Frasier (35931). 10.30 Cheers (51979), 11.00 Festival of Fun I (60554). 11.30 The Larry Sanders

Show (99414). 12.00 Late Night with David Letterman (66606). 1.00 Taxi (31177). 1.30 2.30 Soap (31784), 3.00 Hooperman UK GÖLD (48413). 3.30-4.00 Nightstand (28264).

GRANADA PLUS 6.00 The Box (9890047), 7.00 On the Buses (8013221), 7.30 Ferm Street Gang (8009028). 8.00 That's My Boy (8705283) 8.30 No, Honestly (8704554). 9.00 Classic Coronation Street (8728134). 9.30 Emmerciale (R601047). 10.00 thirtysomething (8098912). 11.00 Hawaii Five-O (8018776). 12.00 Coronation Street (8708370). 12.30 Emmerdale (9605863), 1.00 How's Your Father? (8012592). 1.30 Watching (8604134). 2.00 thirtysomething (4680757). 3.00 The Adventures of Sheriock Holmes (4153047). 4.00 Professionals (4132554). 5.00 Hawaii Five-O (2913318). 6.00 Emmerdale (8311863), 6.30 Coronation St (8302115) 7.00 Mission: Impossible (2745979), 8.00 Professionals (2721399), 9.00 Coronation St (4138738), 9.30 Sez Les (869239 10.00 Joker's Wild (8716399). 10.30 Hogan's Heroes (8725047), 11.00-2.00 As 444208221 2.55-7.0 Shopping (48010887).

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1 N BRELAND As BBC1 LONDON & SE except: 6.30 Newsine 6.30 (738). **BBC1 SCOTLAND**

As BBC1 LONDON & SE except: As 88C1 LONDON & SE except: 12.25 Dotaman (3639283). 12.40 Mirren Measgaichte (73037047). 6.00 News (486). 6.30 Reporting Scotland; Weather (738). 10.35 Frontiere Scotland (747370). 10.45 Omnibus (917573). 11.35 Crimewatch UK Update (241047). 11.45 Film: The Year of Living Dangerously (562318). 1.40 Jons 88C News 24 (10054239).

BBC1 WALES As BBC1 LONDON & SE except: 6.30 Wales Today (738) 9.30 Week in Week Out (84660) 10.00 Crimewatch UK Week Old (\$4689). 10.00 Cramewald On (385825). 10.45 Omnibus (63164). 11.40 FAW Premier Cup (798370). 12.10 Crimewalch UK Update (7562500). 12.20 Film: The Year of Living Dangerously (49719). 2.45 Joins BBC News 24 (89137790).

ANGLIA As Cariton except: 12.20 Angua News and Weather (8934931). 1.00 Di-nosaurs (8643979). 1.35 Home and Away (97334047). 2.00 Christmas Home in the (-2intry (5287370). 3.20 Angsa News and Weather (8977047). 5.10 Shortland Street (6845134). 6.00 Home and Away (688405). **6.25** Angita News (867641). **7.30** Bygone Days (318). **10.00** ITN News: Weather (64318). **10.30** Angita News and Weather (939405). **11.40** Tina Turner Live in Amsterdam - Wildest Dreams Tour (467991), 12.45 The Haunted Fishtank (48351), 145 Planet Rock Profiles (45264), 1.45 Film: Eye of the Cat (848535). 3.35 Nationwide Football League Extra (6270852). 4.30 Cybernet (1331887). 4.56 Nightscreen (3192239). CENTRAL

As Cariton except: 12.20 Central News and Weather (6934931). 1.00 Echo Point (56950). 3.20 Central News and Weather (8977047). 5.30 Shortland St. (6845134). **6.00** Home and Away (688405). **6.25** Central News and Weather (867641). 7.30 Home for Christmas (319), 10.30 Central News and Weather (339405), 11.40 Renegade (958115), 12.35 World of Wonder (875015), 4.45 Jobinder (2013806). 5.20 Asian Eye (2120239).

As Cariton except: 10.15 This Morn-As Carton except 1035 Ins Mon-ing (463486). 1215 HTV News (3635467). 1.00 Shortland Street (50950). 1.30 Shortland Street (50991318). 1.35 Home and Away (97334047). 2.00 Christmes Home in the Country (5287370). 3.20

Time (6845134). **6.00** Home and Away (688405). **6.25** Wales Tonight (867641). **7.30** Your Channel - HTV the First 30 Years (318). 10.30 HTV News 98 (467991). 12.45 The Haunted Fishtank (48351). 145 Planet Hock Profiles (45264). 1.45 Film: Eye of the Cat (846535). 3.35 Football League Extra (6270852), 4.30 Cybernet (13311887), 4.55 Nightscreen (3192239),

HTV WEST the Cotswold Way (6845134), 5.25 HTV West Weather (296573), 6.30 The West Tonight (134), 7.30 Beadle's Hot Shots Tonight (134), 7.30 Beadle's Hot Shots (318), 11.40 Midnight Caller (699950). 12.40 HTV News 98 (3539111). MERICHAN

As Cariton except: 10.15 This Morning (463486), 12.15 Meridian News and Weather (3635467). 1.00 Shortland Street (8643979). 1.35 Home and Away (97334047), 2.00 Christmas Home in the Country (5287870), 3.20 Mendian News and Weather (8977047). 5.30 Mendian News Away (6845/34). 5.37 Three Minutes (398370). 6.00 Mendian Tonight (554). 6.30 Aspinal's Animals (134). 7.30 Mendian Focus (318). 10.30 Mendian News and Weather (939405). **11.40** Prisoner Cell Block H (467991). **12.45** The Haunt-ed Fishtank (48351). **1.15** Planet Rock Profiles (45264). **1.45** Firm: Eye of the Cat (846835). **3.35** Nationwide Football Legue Extra (6270852). 4.30 Cybernet (13311887). 4.55 ITV Nightscreen (84539185). 5.00 Freescreen (31500). WESTCOUNTRY

As Cariton except: 10.15 This Morning (463486). 12.27 Christmas Stories 2950). 1.00 Emmerdale (56950) (8942950), 1.00 Emmerdale (5850).
3.20 Westcountry News (8977047), 6.00 Westcountry Live (#283), 7.30 Home for Christmas (318), 10.30 Westcountry News (939405), 11.40 Anatomy of Disaster (467991), 12.45 The Haunted Fishtand (#8351), 1.15 Planet Rock Profiles (#5264), 1.45 Firm: Eye of the Car (846535), 3.35 Nationwide Football League Extra (8270852), 4.30 Cybernet (13311887), 4.55 ITV Michischen (3192239). 4.55 ITV Nightscreen (3192239).

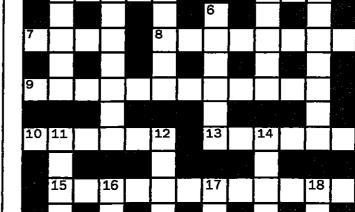
YORKSHIRE As Cariton except: 10.15 This Morning (463486), 12.15 Calendar News and Weather (3635467), 1.00 Home and Westner (3633467): 1.00 nome and Away (58169221): 1.25 Christmas Home in the Country (5865757): 2.10 Coronation Street (5401950): 2.45 Dale's Supermar-ket Sweep (3672496): 3.10 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (8971863), 5.40 News; Weather (521370), 5.55 Calendar (256486), 6.30 Tonight (134), 7.30 What a Picture (318), 10.30 Calendar News and Weather (939405), 4.15 ITV Nightscreen (46369158), 4.20 Jobfinder (2321871).

TYNE TEES As Yorkshire except: 3.20 North East News Headines (8977047), 5.55 North East Weather (318134), 6.00 North East Tonight (74283), 7.30 The Time of Our Lives (318), 10.30 North East News and Weather (939405).

As Channel 4 except: 12.00 Judge

Joe Brown (46543776). 12.30 Sesame Street (40357973). 1.00 Planed Plant: Street (4035/973), 1.00 Planed Plant: Bwgan a Clwc (46250202), 1.30 St Ives (46153844), 1.50 Film: The Day the Earth Stood Still* (62071844), 4.30 Ricki Leke (1140318), 5.00 Planed Plant (16009554), 5.30 Countdown (11494370), 6.00 News (19095134), 6.30 Heno (80732689), 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (33489863), 7.25 Cerdyn Post (36167015), 8.00 Doig Dudley (16005738), 8.30 Newyddon (16017573), 10.00 Brookside (95862028), 10.35 Adult Ricki (48928028), 11.20 The Real Holiday Show (66926009). 11.50 Film: Canadian Bacon (11107263). 1.35 Close.

CONCISE CROSSWORD



ACROSS

21 |

Sheriff's helpers (5) Put on (3) Monk's room (4) Aquatic creatures (3-5) Mental capacity (12) 10 Person running newspaper (6)

13 Range (6) 15 Type of boat (5-7) 19 Undertaking (8) 20 Descryc (4) 21 Tibetan ox (3)

22 At the present time (5)

DOWN

Hymn of praise (5) Prominent (7) Artist's support (5) Condescend (5) Type of cotton cloth (7) Wrist ornament (6) 11 Propriety (7) 12 Off (6) 14 Hind part (4-3) 16 Seven-point ball (5) 17 Correct (5) 18 Before time (5)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Hart, 4 Veldt (Heartfelt), 9 Peril, 10 Newsboy, 11 Everyday, 12 Cede, 13 Primogeniture, 17 Weed, 18 Loan-word, 21 Freeman, 22 Opera, 23 Genus, 24 Seed, DOWN; 2 Agree, 3 Tally-ho, 4 Vantage points, 5 Lawn, 6 Tableau, 7 Upkeep, 8 Pyre, 14 Iceberg, 15 Igneous, 16 Endear, 17 Waft, 19 Obese, 20 Amen.

A Marin Company of the State of

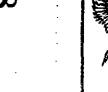
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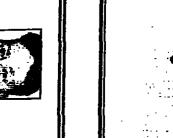
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MATTHEW SWEET

TELEVISION REVIEW

ageony acces weight to anorama: Boys Don't Cry iBC1), an investigation into e rising number of suicides nong young males. Each day the UK, five men under the je of 35 take their own lives, he brother of the presenter, allet Morris, kiled himself ur years ago, and helped ump up those statistics. forris unfolded a series of earthreaking stories, told arough interviews with the arents and friends these boys if behind. Fathers swallowed ack their tears. Mothers tried to keep smiling for the camera and struggled to get out words a monstrously definite as dead". Mates down the pub azed, baffled, into their lager, insuccessful suicides reathed a sigh of relief and of the out horror stories reathed a sigh of relief and orted out horror stories wolving vallum and razor lades. Pronorana's aftersiowees told their stories wolving vallum and respect for hem. All of which makes afticism of the programme iself rather tricky.

However Raise Don't Cry Except, of course, that it wasn't really a mystery to them. It was just that the programme's powerful testimonies retarded the analysis of its subject. It hinted, gently, that most of these men had resorted to suicide after arguments with their griffriends and mothers. But

ough aiready.
Paul Watson's White Lives
'4) - a two-part film about
mtemporary South Africa mcluded last night, and asked iding these women sponsible for the deaths of sir loved ones. And the tear-nudged mascara told you that sy blamed themselves quite

However, Boys Don't Cry
However, Boys Don't Cry
id many shortcomings,
sinly as a result of the
tensely personal slant that it
ok. It zoomed in so close on a
undful of cases that it found
self unable to come to any
m conclusions. Psychiairists
ere enlisted to make noises
yout unemployment, money
orries, and the emotional
dicence of male culture. Tony
ilson, ageing yoof guru and
premo of Factory Records,
pped up to talk about his
yomotional work for Calm, a
hiptine for young men in
youble. As Factory's success
as partly built on the
sthumous cult following of
yo Division's frontman Ian
uris (who hanged himself in
80), it was a pity that Wilson
asn't asked to comment on
uch more than his talent for
afiet design. I grew up in
anchester in the 1980s, and I former chief enforcers of apartheld? "Is your garden a jungle?" asked Pik Botta, voicing an ad on 702 Radio. "Do you have trouble finding your dog in the grass? At Livingstone's, you'll find the widest range of mowers and gardening equipment, and all at the lowest possible prices," Watson's film was fuelled by high irony, intercutting Pik's promo with footage of a black shooting victim being patched up in an overcrowded hospital.

Centrally, this was a document of white self-delusion: "Hitler is one of history's most respected men," whined a scrawny Neo-Nazi from his bedroom. Eugene Terre Blanche recited

Julie Andrews (right) may never sing again was reported with the sort of barely suppressed snigger which has echoed down through her career ever since she ran across the Austrian Alps exhorting us to "Climb Every Mountain". It's that clipped, remorselessly cheery wholesomeness ("she makes wholesomeness seem like a terminal condition," wrote David Thomson) which makes it hard for us to forgive her: It should be fasctnating to see how Andrews sees herself as she looks back on her life and career, with contributions from James Garner, Jack Lemmon and Sound of Music director Robert Wise.

Moreover, nobody suggested at the recent increase in ung men's despair might be lated to the equally recent surge in young women's ufidence. None of

BBC1

(35.467). 9.00 Kilroy (S) (T) (54.91028), 9.40 Style (T) (35.467). 9.00 Kilroy (S) (T) (54.91028), 9.40 Style (Challenge (S) (114.0080), 10.05 City Hospital (S) (T) (7923757), 10.65 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (4665028), 11.00 Good Living (S) (4675405), 11.25 Cen't Cook, Won't Cook (S) (T) (4678592), 11.55 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (1583641), 12.00 Pass the Buck (S) (9272202), 12.25 Going for a Song (S) (9268009), 12.50 The Weather Show (S) (T) (73026931), 1.00 News; Weather (T) (38554), 1.30 Regional News and Weather (45330405), 1.40 Neighbours (S) (T) (97339592), 2.05 Ironside (R) (4050860), 2.65 Battersea Dogs' Home (S) (T) (4630738), 3.25 Playdays (R) (S) (9129009),

Children's BBC: Bananaman (R) (S) (6376738). 3.50 ChuckleVision (R) (S) (3416134). 4.10 Noah's Island (S) (T) (7086328). 4.35 It'll Never Work (S) (T) (9792689). 5.00 Newsround (S) (T) (2329467). 5.10 Aquila (S) (T) (8035283).

5.35 Neighbours. Madge is feeling out of sorts (S) (T) (386134).

6.30 Regional News (T) (738).

10

7.00 Holiday. The south-eastern seaboard of Alaska as seen from a cruise ship, a thatched-inn tour of Devon and Somerset, and self-catering in Jamaica (S) (8844).

7.30 EastEnders. Things come to a head between Simon and Grant, while Jamie cracks under pressure from Beppe (S) (T) (950).

8.30 Only Foots and Horses. Del persuades Denzil to lend him his rectundency money in yet another reruntrom John Sullivan's Eightles sitcom (R) (S) (T) (3399). 8.00 Mysteries with Carol Vorderman. The story of the baby who survived a fall from an eight-storey building (S) (T) (7692).

9.00 Newsj Regional Newsj Weather (T) (5793).

9:30 **Crimewatch UK.** Nick Ross and Jill Dando join in the hunt for a sex attacker who has committed at least three offences in the south-east of England (S) (T) (965825).

9.30

WIDER Omnibus: Julie Andrews. The squeaky clean actress and singer discusses her life and career. See Arts Programme of the Day, below (S) (T) (561216).

11.10 Crimewatch UK Update (S) (T) (628950).

120 [PIIDIN] The Year of Living Dangerously (Peter Weir 1982 US). Mel Gibson and Sigourney We gets the hots for each other against the backdrop of revolutionary indonesia. See Film of the Day.

Joins BBC News 24 (42112852). To 6am.

ARTS PROGRAMME OF THE DAY

10.30 IIIM Joan of Arc (Victor Fieming 1948 US). Talky adeptation of Maxwell Anderson's play, with ingrid Bergman recreating her stage role as the Maid of Orleans, José Ferrer plays the Dauphin (66605739).

12.10 Birds with Tony Soper (9454196). 12.30 Working Lunch (79738). 1.00 Oakle Doke (21778950), 1.10 The Arts and Crafts Hour (8532216). 2.10 Match of the Day Greats (86224660). 2.40 News; Weather (T) (6127641). 2.45 Weathinster (S) (T) (2708912). 3.25 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (8972592). 3.30 Gardeners' World (844). 4.00 Change That (9145202). 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (S) (9155889). 4.85 Lowri (S) (T) (701015). 5.30 Cricket - the Ashes. Highlights of the final day's play in Third Test between England and Australia (S) (115).

From the Edge. Blind cook John Wellsman bakes a Christmas cake using talking scales and a microwave oven (S) (T) (592).

8.00 University Challenge. Harris Manchester College, Oxford, clash with Manchester University. All very confusing (S) (T) (5134).

8.30 Delia's How to Cook. The last in the series as Delia Smith demonstrates her perfect, idiot-proof rice – before graduating to Chinese stir-fry, over-baked risotto and spicy jambalaya (S) (T) (4641).

10.30 Newsnight. Paxman (T) (816405). 10.20 Wrappers. Chocolate packaging (S) (T) (834318).

11.15 Seinfeid. Jerry dates a girl who naver see her point (S) (T) (650486).

11.35 The Larry Senders Show. Paula is promoted to producer when she threatens to leave (S) (T) (916842).

12.00 Despatch Box (68535), 12.30 Open Science:
Quantum Leaps (40697), 1.00 More Than Meets the
Eye (59448), 1.30 Hard Questions, Soft Answers
(91968), 2.00 Bellef Season: The Long Search/ Faith to
Faith (90167), 4.00 Lingua Italian (16871), 5.00 Business
and Training: Career Moves (3461264), To 5.45am.

BBC2

Bear (6209757), **7.05** gils Treesure Hunt (R) 3339009). **8.88**

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bei Air (R) (S) (779221).

6.20 Heartbreak High. More from those inner-city Syciney echoolchildren. Kurt loses his temper, Sarah wents to become a teacher and Draz is led astray (5) (T) (620047)

7.30 7.10 The O Zone. Which song will be the Christmas numbe one? Jamle Theakston reads the runes (R) (S) (886405).

9.00 Back to the Floor. The director of removals company Pickfords swaps his BMW for a HGV to spend a week shifting heavy furniture (S) (T) (8825).

9.00

EliDiDE Modern Times: Paying for it. Britain's first "John school" for the "education" of kerb-crawlers. See Documentary of the Day, below (S) (T) (610863).

11.40 Reneg (587115) Real St 10.40 Twins in Black and White. Looking at the experiences of the handful of twins born from mixed-race relationships who are different colours, one black and one white. The film investigates how questions of race, identity and prejudice have affected their lives (657889). **gade** (S) (699950). **12.40** The Haunted Fishtank 58). **1.15** Planet Rock Profiles (S) (5424719). **1.40** tories of the Highway Patrol (S) (9781622).

2.05 HIM 1943 U 3.10 Sound 445 **dtrax** (54893451). **3.20** Football Extra (9907500). FV Nightscreen (1479500). To 5.30am. Anosts on the Loose (Willem Beaudine IS). The Bowery Boys stumble across a Nazl spy in osedly haunted house. Yes, that old one (7335239).

6.00 QMT

5-40 Newsj Weather (T) (252738).

오림

ters. Eight episodes of this Geordie-builders-in-eland saga may have stretched the material inyway, here we are on the last lap with the house / finished, and Laura (Emily Noyce) having to e between her husband and twinkly-eyed Robson n (S) (T) (4592).

10.30 London Tonight (T) (939405). s Weather (1) (64318). 10,00

Carlton

700

The Big Breakfast (S) (T) (51405). 9.00 Cosby (T) (9693912).

6.00

hannel 5

T. 3

THE TUESDAY REVIEW
The Independent 15 December 1998

. 40

US). You'll feel like you've spent five weeks on the sofa by the time you've waded through this vapid Jules Yarne adaptation from the future maestro of the disaster movie. Cedric Hardwicke, Fied Buttons and Fabian are the eclectic cast bellooning across Africa (14531283).

3.30

Above-per TV movie starring Mark Harmon as an Above-per TV movie starring Mark Harmon as an itinerant carpenter in Depression-era America, judged an unfit father to his four sons after his wife clies. This based-on-real-events drama follows Harmon's battle to reunite his tamily (7718912).

100

The Three Stooges (3882028), 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (4486), 12.00 Sesame Street (54931), 12.30 | Dream of Jeannie (T) (97134), 1.00 Judge Joe Brown (54592), 1.30 Roots to Success (45323115).

LITE My Friend Filcka (Herold Schuster 1943 US).
Lovely old Technicolor boy-and-horse classic with Roddy
McDowall begging his rancher father (Preston Foster) for

McDowall begging his rancher is a colt of his own (7) (86500399).

(R) (S) (T) (6187047). **7.30** Milkshake! (S) (2726047). **7.35** Wimzie's House (R) (S) (6381950). **8.00** Havakazoo (R) (S) (7792202). **8.30** Dappledown Farm (7791573). **9.00** The Great Garden Game (R) (S) (T) (3325912). **9.25** Russell Grant's Postcards (4250370). **9.30** The Opreh Winfrey Show (8423399). **10.20** Sunset Beach (S) (T) (7454781). **11.10** Leeza (R) (S) (8668931). **12.00** 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (7702689). **12.30** Family Affairs (S) (T) (2323399). **1.00** The Bold and the Beauliful (S) (T) (6186318). **1.30** Sons and Daughters (2315370). **2.00** 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (1696950). **2.30** Good Afternoon (S) (2360825).

and Away (S) (T) (6845134).

on Tonight. Regional news update for the land the South-East (T) (554).

6.00

7.00 Emmerdate. Yorkshire trauma. Kathy's temper allenates Biff, and Andy's past returns to haunt him (S) (T) (3912). e for Christmae. John Stapleton and various appeal for information which may lead to some 10,000 people who go missing every year being et with their families for Christmas (S) (134). ₫,

7.30 Weddings. Series following three couples from Sikh. African and Greek communities as they prepare for the biggest day of their lives (318).

8.00 The Bill. "Live and Ticking". A schoolboy turns into amateur bomb-maker in this latest hour-long episode the plod drama (T) (1028).

9,00 Cutting Edge: Safari Strife. Entertaining culture-shock documentary following Hampstead born-and-bred Sophile Williams as she takes her young son and follows her African husband Rufus to a new life in the wilds of the Kenyan bush (1) (2134).

10.45 Adult Ricki. Guesta include men who pay prosiliules for sex (R) (S) (T) (808028). 11,30

30 Dope Sheet (2/2383), 12.05 About Love and a Fly (7565697), 12.15 Attraction (2603968), 12.20 Bird Becomes Bird (9263326), 12.40 Dead Cow Farm (2218023), 12.45 Bump in the Night (7/09245), 1.00 Cri (1438974), 1.10 Staggering (2/184535), 1.13 Glasgow Kiss (2/184535), 1.15 Play to Win (2/183806), 1.20 Ice Cream and Jelly and a Punch in the Belly (2/09187), 1.30 Devianti (7/186326), 1.35 Granny Girmen's Train Journey (7/18597), 1.40 Sunlight Seeping in (2/57581), 1.55 Joe Public (9695671), 2.25 The Real World (2/160790), 2.55 Homicide (96/0993), To 440am.

hannel

9.25 Trisha (S) (T) (2983080). 10.15 This Morning (T) (52670912). 12.20 Your Shout (6934931). 12.30 News; Weather (T) (89592). 1.00 London Today (T) (56950). 1.30 Christmas Home in the Country (8328931). 2.15 Home and Away (S) (T) (587825). 2.45 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (S) (T) (586196). 3.15 TN News Headlines (T) (8970134). 3.20 London Today (T) (8977047).

5.10 Home dren's ITV: Wizadora (R) (8950370), 3.35 The ng Kettle (S) (3058979), 3.45 Wolves, Wilches and is (R) (S) (3038115), 4.00 Zzzap! (S) (9898301), Junanji (T) (1328370), 4.40 Timmy Towers - the timas Special (S) (T) (1871405).

3.30

Collectors' Lot (912). 4.00 Filteen to One (T) (937). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (9786028). 4.55 Ricki Lake (S) (T) (7005283). 5.30 Pet Rescue Roadshow (S) (T) (283).

5,20

The Roseanne Show. Actress Liz Smith Is one of the guests on this flabby chat show (9292844).

6.00 100 Per Cent. The game show without a host (S) (2538689).

6.00 Harry Hill (T) (196).

6.30 King of the Hiff. Blue-collar animation. Hank to the rescue as a tornado menaces Peggy and Luanne at the local trailer park (R) (S) (T) (776).

7.00 Channel 4 News) Weather (S) (T) (446467)

7.00

5 News, Including First on Five. Kirsty Young ambies off with the headlines (S) (T) (1674738).

Family Affairs. Jack confesses all after walking straight into Maria and Annie's trap. Chris sees Angus's stash of cash under his bed (S) (T) (2512641).

7.60 Art Transpennine. Visits the Palace of Projects in Manchester (1) (662047).

8.00 Brookside. Mersey grief, Jacqui's plans for New Year crumble when the architects bring bad news (S)

8.00

Are You Being Cheated? Charlotte Hudson uncovers more fraudulent behaviour (S) (T) (1683488)

7.30 Wild at Home. Wildlife documentary about the return to the Shalland Isles of thousands of puffins every summer. They come to feed on the sand eets – their favourite food, apparently (S) (T) (25/8825).

8.30 Classic Aircraft. Celebrating Geoffrey de Havilland's Gipsy Moth, which revolutionised the world of private flying. And Torquil Norman takes a flight to the Arctic in his luxurious Dragonity, built in 1936 (5) (7) (6009).

9.0 8,30 00,8 Names a Collingridge takes a seasonal look at alcohol and drinking and the problems it creates - from domestic violence to organised crime (5) (1895221).

DO TATIVA Color of Justice (Jeremy Kagan 1997 US). Courtroom drama about a gang of car-jacking black teenagers in the Bronx charged with the death of a white suburban women. An unusually good cast (F Murray Abraham, Judd Hirsch, Gregory Hines) elevates this issue-driven TV movie above the average

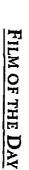
10.40

11.20 40 The Jack Docherty Show. Guests Include Wilthnell & I director Bruce Robinson, Antony Worrall Thompson and Lenny Beige (5) (2053931).

20 The Streets of San Francisco (R) (T) (6397979).

12.20 Live and Dangerous (S) (3122968). 1.00 Live and Dangerous (S) (42641264). 3.45 Asian Football Show (9850719). 4.40 Prigoner: Cell Block H (8810041). 5.30 (100 Per Cent (R) (7251210). To 6am.

THEEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GHAERT



THE YEAR OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY (1120pm BBC1, Aght) Mel Gibson and Peter Weir teamed up again after the success of Gallipoli for this ambitious, if politically confused, drama set amid the upheaval of indonesia in 1965. As usual, Weir is high on atmosphere, pungently recreating the dirt, noise and poverty of a Third World country in turmoil. Into this steamy cauldron he throws Gibson's radio journalist and Sigourney Weaver's British military attaché the two give off an almost Bogey-and-Becall sexual heat), although it was Linda Hunt who won the Best Actress Oscur as a male photographer – Gibson's guide into this heart of darkness.

Television's fascination with the oldest profession continuationight with Ricki Lake (right) meeting men who prefer it services of a prostitute to a serious relationship (Adult Rid 10.45pm C4), and Emma Hewitt's film about a pioneering scheme in Leeds. Instead of targeting the working girls, the West Yorkshire police are focusing on the women's clients Kerb-crawlers are given the choice between a court appearance or a course at Leeds University which has be

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DA



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